WEST virginia legislature

2023 regular session

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 62

By Senator Nelson

[Originating in the Committee on Government Organization; reported on February 24, 2023]

A BILL to amend and reenact §19-23-12a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend and reenact §29-22A-12 of said code; to amend and reenact §29-22C-3, §29-22C-4, §29-22C-6, and §29-22C-7 of said code; to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §29-22C-7a; to amend and reenact §29-22C-8 of said code; and to amend and reenact §29-22D-15 of said code, all relating to allowing for the establishment of a secondary location for pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast races, racetrack video lottery terminals, sport wagering kiosks, and racetrack table games of licensed racetracks at an alternative location within the current county of the licensed racetrack; providing that the original venue must remain in operation; providing that the original venue continue to offer amenities, accommodations, options and services at the same level; providing for a local option election; defining terms; providing Lottery Commission authority to regulate secondary locations; providing for rulemaking; providing for licensing of secondary locations; and removing special elections to establish racetracks.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

CHAPTER 19. AGRICULTURE.

ARTICLE 23. HORSE AND DOG RACING.

§19-23-12a. Pari-mutuel wagering on interstate and intrastate horse and dog racing.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, a racing association licensed in this state to conduct race meetings may, with the consent of the Racing Commission and the written approval of the authorized representative of a majority of the owners and trainers who hold the permit required by §19-23-2 of this code at the horse racetrack, contract with any legal wagering entity in this or any other state to accept wagers on any race or races conducted by such legal wagering entity. Unless the wager becomes part of the host licensee's pari-mutuel pool, such wagering shall be conducted within the confines of such licensee’s racetrack or at a hotel as defined in §16-6-3 of this code, controlled by such licensee and contiguous to the licensee's property, subject to the following requirements:

(a) That such hotel ~~contain~~ contains at least 100 rooms and be in existence on the effective date of this section;

(b) That the licensee shall have invested at least $1 million in the hotel; and

(c) That ~~such~~ the hotel is within one-half mile of the licensee’s racetrack surface.

(2) ~~Such~~ The horse association shall retain a basic commission not to exceed 17 and 25 one-hundredths percent of all money wagered, plus an additional amount equal to one and 75 one-hundredths percent of the amount wagered each day on all multiple wagers determined by a combination of two winning horses, including, but not limited to, the daily double, quinella and perfecta or plus an additional amount equal to seven and 75 one-hundredths percent of the amount wagered each day on all trifecta wagers or any other multiple wager which involves a single betting interest on three or more horses. Breakage shall be calculated and distributed in the manner provided by §19-23-9(c) of this code.

(3) The commission deducted by any licensee from the pari-mutuel pools on dog racing ~~shall~~ may not exceed 16 and one-fourth percent of the total of ~~such~~ the pari-mutuel pools for the day.

(4) Out of the commission retained or deducted by a licensee under the provisions of subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the licensee shall pay one tenth of one percent into the General Fund of the county commission of the county in which the racetrack is located, except if within a municipality, then to ~~such~~ the municipality’s general fund.

(5) The association shall pay each day a pari-mutuel pools tax calculated under the provisions of §19-23-10 of this code.

(6) After deducting the county or municipal share provided for in subsection (4) of this section and the pari-mutuel pools tax required by subsection (5) of this section, and the amount required to be paid under the terms of the contract with the legal wagering entity of this or another state and the cost of transmission, the horse racing association shall make a deposit equal to 50 percent of the remainder into the purse fund established under the provisions of §19-23-9(1)(b) of this code.

(7) All of the provisions of the Federal Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978, also known as Public Law 95-515, section 3001-3007 of title 15, U.S. Code, shall be instructive as the intent of this section.

(8) For the purposes of this section the ~~words~~ term "legal wagering entity" shall be limited to any person engaged in horse racing or dog racing pursuant to a license or other permission granted by the state in which such person’s racetrack is situated and conducting race meetings, with a pari-mutuel wagering system permitted under that state’s laws and in which the participants are wagering with each other and not the operator.

(9) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a licensed racetrack may establish a secondary location for its business at any building owned or leased by the licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located to conduct pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast races: *Provided*, That the licensed racetrack receives approval from the State Lottery Commission and has received voter approval pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code. The total amount of locations a licensed racetrack may operate within a county is two locations with no requirement that the second location have a racetrack: *Provided, however*, That any licensed racetrack establishing a secondary location shall continue to operate its original facility and continue to maintain and offer amenities, accommodations, options, and services at the original facility, and shall continue to maintain and offer the same level of amenities, accommodations, options, and services as of the effective date of the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2023. As used in this subsection, amenities, accommodations, options, and services may include, but are not limited to, table games, video lottery terminals, live racing, and sports wagering kiosks offered to the public.

CHAPTER 29. MISCELLANEOUS BOARDS AND OFFICERS.

ARTICLE 22A. RACETRACK VIDEO LOTTERY.

§29-22A-12. Number and location of video lottery terminals security.

(a) A racetrack which has been licensed to conduct video lottery games ~~has the right to~~ may install and operate up to 400 video lottery terminals at a licensed racetrack. A licensed racetrack may apply to the commission for authorization to install and operate more than 400 video lottery terminals. If the commission determines that the installation of additional machines is in the best interest of the licensed racetrack, the State Lottery Commission, and the citizens of this state, the commission may grant permission to install and operate additional machines.

(b) All video lottery terminals in licensed racetracks shall be physically located as follows:

(1) The video lottery location shall be continuously monitored through the use of a ~~closed circuit~~ closed-circuit television system capable of recording activity for a continuous 24-hour period. All video tapes shall be retained for a period of at least 30 days;

(2) Access to video lottery terminal locations shall be restricted to persons legally entitled by age to play video lottery games;

(3) The licensed racetrack shall submit for commission approval a floor plan of the area or areas where video lottery terminals are to be operated showing terminal locations and security camera mount locations;

(4) ~~No~~ A video lottery terminal may not be relocated without prior approval from the commission; and

(5) Operational video lottery terminals may only be located in the building or structure in which the grandstand area of the racetrack is located and in the area of the building or structure where pari-mutuel wagering is permitted under the provisions of ~~article twenty-three, chapter nineteen~~ §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code: *Provided,* That if the commission, before November 1, 1993, has authorized any racetrack to operate video lottery terminals and offer video lottery games in a location which would not conform to the requirements of this subdivision, the racetrack may continue to use video lottery terminals registered with and approved by the commission at that nonconforming location and to offer the games and any variations or composites of the games as may be approved by the commission.

(c) A licensee shall allow video lottery games to be played only on days when live racing is being conducted at the racetrack ~~and/or~~, on televised racing days, or both: *Provided,* That this restriction ~~shall~~ may not apply to any racetrack authorized by the commissioner prior to November 1, 1993, to operate video lottery terminals and conduct video lottery games.

(d) Security personnel shall be present during all hours of operation at each video lottery terminal location. Each license holder shall employ the number of security personnel the commission determines is necessary to provide for safe and approved operation of the video lottery facilities and the safety and well-being of the players.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary, a licensed racetrack may establish a secondary location for its business, including authorized operational video lottery terminals, at any building owned or leased by the licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located so long as the licensed racetrack receives approval from the State Lottery Commission and has received voter approval pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code. The total amount of locations a licensed racetrack may operate within a county is two locations: *Provided*, That if any licensed racetrack relocates operational video lottery terminals outside of a municipality, the municipality may receive the share of funds it received under §29-22A-10 and §29-22A-10b of this code up to the amount received in the fiscal year immediately preceding the relocation of the operational video lottery terminals, and the excess of this amount shall be divided proportionally to the said municipality and the new municipality, if any, based on the revenues generated at each location: *Provided, however,* That the total amount of funds transferred to the municipalities may not exceed the percentage provided under §29-22A-10 and §29-22A-10b of this code: *Provided further*, That any licensed racetrack establishing a secondary location shall continue to operate its original facility and continue to maintain and offer amenities, accommodations, options, and services at the original facility, and shall continue to maintain and offer the same level of amenities, accommodations, options, and services as of the effective date of the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2023. As used in this subsection, amenities, accommodations, options, and services may include, but are not limited to, table games, video lottery terminals, live racing, and sports wagering kiosks offered to the public.

ARTICLE 22C. WEST VIRGINIA LOTTERY RACETRACK TABLE GAMES ACT.

§29-22C-3. Definitions.

(a) *Applicability of definitions*. — For the purposes of this article, the words or terms defined in this section, and any variation of those words or terms required by the context, have the meanings ascribed to them in this section. These definitions are applicable unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context in which the word or term is used.

(b) *~~Terms defined~~*~~.~~ *Definitions.* —

(1) "Adjusted gross receipts" means gross receipts from West Virginia Lottery table games less winnings paid to patrons wagering on the racetrack’s table games.

(2) "Applicant" means any person who on his or her own behalf, or on behalf of another, has applied for permission to engage in any act or activity that is regulated under the provision of this article for which a license is required by this article or rule of the commission.

(3) "Application" means any written request for permission to engage in any act or activity that is regulated under the provisions of this article submitted in the form prescribed by the commission.

(4) "Background investigation" means a security, criminal, and credit investigation of an applicant who has applied for the issuance or renewal of a license pursuant to this article, or a licensee who holds a current license.

(5) "Commission" or "State Lottery Commission" means the West Virginia Lottery Commission created by §29-22-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(6) "Complimentary" means a service or item provided at no cost or at a reduced price.

(7) "Compensation" means any money, thing of value, or financial benefit conferred or received by a person in return for services rendered, or to be rendered, whether by that person or another.

(8) "Contested case" means a proceeding before the commission, or a hearing examiner designated by the commission to hear the contested case, in which the legal rights, duties, interests or privileges of specific persons are required by law or Constitutional right to be determined after a commission hearing, but does not include cases in which the commission issues a license, permit, or certificate after an examination to test the knowledge or ability of the applicant where the controversy concerns whether the examination was fair or whether the applicant passed the examination and does not include rulemaking.

(9) "Control" means the direct or indirect authority ~~directly or indirectly~~ to direct the management and policies of an applicant for a license issued under this article or the holder of a license issued under this article.

(10) "Designated gaming area" means one or more specific floor areas of a licensed racetrack within which the commission has authorized operation of racetrack video lottery terminals or table games, or the operation of both racetrack video lottery terminals and West Virginia Lottery table games.

(11) "Director" means the Director of the West Virginia State Lottery Commission appointed pursuant to §29-22-6 of this code.

(12) "Disciplinary action" is an action by the commission suspending or revoking a license, fining, excluding, reprimanding, or otherwise penalizing a person for violating this article or rules promulgated by the commission.

(13) "Financial interest" or "financially interested" means any interest in investments, awarding of contracts, grants, loans, purchases, leases, sales, or similar matters under consideration for consummation by the commission. A member, employee, or agent of the commission will be considered to have a financial interest in a matter under consideration if any of the following circumstances exist:

(A) He or she owns one percent or more of any class of outstanding securities that are issued by a party to the matter under consideration by the commission; or

(B) He or she is employed by an independent contractor for a party to the matter under consideration or consummated by the commission.

(14) "Gaming equipment" means gaming tables, cards, dice, chips, shufflers, drop boxes, or any other mechanical, electronic, or other device, mechanism, or equipment or related supplies used or consumed in the operation of any West Virginia Lottery table game at a licensed racetrack.

(15) "Gross receipts" means the total of all sums including valid or invalid checks, currency, tokens, coupons (excluding match play coupons), vouchers or instruments of monetary value whether collected or uncollected, received by a racetrack with table games from table gaming operations at a ~~race track~~ racetrack, including all entry fees assessed for tournaments or other contests.

(16) "Indirect ownership" means an interest a person owns in an entity or in property solely as a result of application of constructive ownership rules without regard to any direct ownership interest (or other beneficial interest) in the entity or property. "Indirect ownership" shall be determined under the same rules applicable to determining whether a gain or loss between related parties is recognized for federal income tax purposes.

(17) "Licensed racetrack" means a thoroughbred horse or greyhound dog racing facility licensed under both §29-22A-1 *et seq.* and §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(18) "License" means any license applied for or issued by the commission under this article, including, but not limited to:

(A) A license to act as agent of the commission in operating West Virginia Lottery table games at a licensed racetrack;

(B) A license to supply a racetrack licensed under this article to operate table games with table gaming equipment or services necessary for the operation of table games;

(C) A license to be employed at a racetrack licensed under this article to operate West Virginia Lottery table games when the employee works in a designated gaming area that has table games or performs duties in furtherance of or associated with the operation of table games at the licensed racetrack; or

(D) A license to provide management services under a contract to a racetrack licensed under this article to operate table games.

(19) "Licensee" means any person who is licensed under any provision of this article.

(20) "Lottery" means the public gaming systems or games regulated, controlled, owned, and operated by the State Lottery Commission in the manner provided by general law, as provided in this article and in §29-22-1 *et seq.,* §29-22A-1 *et seq.,* §29-22B-1 *et seq.,* and §29-25-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(21) "Member" means a commission member appointed to the West Virginia Lottery Commission under §29-22-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(22) "National criminal history background check system" means the criminal history record system maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation based on fingerprint identification or any other method of positive identification.

(23) "Own" means any beneficial or proprietary interest in any real or personal property, including intellectual property, and ~~also~~ includes, but is not limited to, any direct or indirect beneficial or proprietary interest in any business of an applicant or licensee.

(24) "Person" means any natural person, and any corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, trust, or other entity, regardless of its form, structure or nature other than a government agency or instrumentality.

(25) "Player" or "Patron" means a person who plays a racetrack video lottery game or a West Virginia Lottery table game at a racetrack licensed under this article to have table games.

(26) "Player’s account" means a financial record established by a licensed racetrack for an individual racetrack patron to which the racetrack may credit winnings and other amounts due to the racetrack patron and from which the patron may withdraw moneys due to the patron for purchase of tokens, chips, or electronic media or other purposes.

(27) "Racetrack table games license" means authorization granted under this article by the commission to a racetrack that is already licensed under §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code to operate racetrack video lottery terminals and holds a valid racing license granted by the West Virginia Racing Commission pursuant to the provision of §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code, which permits the racetrack as an agent of the commission for the limited purpose of operation of West Virginia Lottery table games in one or more designated gaming areas in one or more buildings owned or leased by the licensed racetrack on the grounds where live pari-mutuel racing is conducted by the licensee or at a secondary location consisting of any building owned or leased by the licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located: *Provided*, That the licensed racetrack receives approval from the State Lottery Commission.

(28) "Racetrack Table Games Fund" means the special fund in the State Treasury created in §29-22C-27 of this code.

(29) "Secondary or satellite locations" means a secondary location of a business in any building owned or leased by a licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located to conduct pari-mutuel wagering on simulcasts, video lottery terminals, sports wagering kiosks, and racetrack table games.

~~(29)~~ (30) "Significant influence" means the capacity of a person to affect substantially (but not control) either, or both, of the financial and operating policies of another person.

(~~30)~~ (31) "Supplier" means a person who the commission has identified under legislative rules of the commission as requiring a license to provide a racetrack table games licensee with goods or services to be used in connection with operation of table games.

~~(31)~~ (32) "Wager" means a sum of money or thing of value risked on an uncertain occurrence.

~~(32)~~ (33) "West Virginia Lottery table game" means any game played with cards, dice or any mechanical, electromechanical or electronic device or machine for money, credit or any representative of value, including, but not limited to, baccarat, blackjack, poker, craps, roulette, wheel of fortune or any variation of these games similar in design or operation and expressly authorized by rule of the commission, including multiplayer electronic table games, machines and devices, but excluding video lottery, punchboards, faro, numbers tickets, push cards, jar tickets, pull tabs, or similar games.

~~(33)~~ (34) "Winnings" means the total cash value of all property or sums including currency, tokens, or instruments of monetary value paid to players as a direct result of wagers placed on West Virginia Lottery table games.

§29-22C-4. Commission duties and powers.

(a) *Duties*. — In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this article or in §29-22-1 *et seq.,* §29-22A-1 *et seq*., §29-22B-1 *et seq*., ~~and~~ or §29-25-1 *et seq.* of this code, the commission shall:

(1) Establish minimum standards for gaming equipment, including, but not limited to, electronic and mechanical gaming equipment;

(2) Enter into licensing agreements with facilities eligible to operate West Virginia Lottery table games for the state, providing criteria and guidelines for preservation of the states ownership, operation, and control interests as provided by general law herein;

(3) Approve, modify, or reject game rules of play proposed by the licensee for West Virginia Lottery table games proposed to be operated at a licensed racetrack;

(4) Approve, modify, or reject minimum internal control standards proposed by the licensee governing racetrack table game operations, including the maintenance of financial records;

(5) Approve staff considered necessary by the director to oversee, inspect and monitor the operation of table games at any racetrack licensed under this article and §29-22A-1 *et seq*. of this code, including, but not limited to, inspection of designated gaming areas, gaming equipment and security equipment used in the operation of table games to assure continuous compliance with the provisions of this article, required license conditions and terms, and applicable rules of the commission;

(6) Determine eligibility of a person to hold or continue to hold a license issued under this article;

(7) License, establish standards and requirements for operation, and approve operation of a secondary location: *Provided*, That voters approve of the operation of a secondary location in a local option election pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code.

~~(7)~~ (8) Issue all licenses;

~~(8)~~ (9) Maintain a record of all licenses issued;

~~(9)~~ (10) Levy and collect the taxes imposed by this article and the fees, surcharges and civil penalties authorized, required or specified in this article or the legislative rules of the commission, and receive, accept and pay all taxes, fees, surcharges and civil penalties collected under this article into the Racetrack Table Games Fund, except as otherwise provided under this article; and

~~(10)~~ (11) Keep a public record of all commission actions and proceedings with respect to West Virginia Lottery table games.

(b) *Powers*. — In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this article or in §29-22-1 *et seq.,* §29-22A-1 *et seq*., §29-22B-1 *et seq*., and §29-25-1 *et seq.* of this code, the commission may:

(1) Sue to enforce any provision of this article or any rule of the commission, whether by civil action or petition for injunctive relief;

(2) Hold hearings, administer oaths, and issue subpoenas for attendance of witnesses to testify or subpoenas duces tecum for the production of documents or other evidence;

(3) Enter a licensed racetrack with West Virginia Lottery table games at any time and without notice to ensure strict compliance with this article and with the rules of the commission;

(4) Bar, for cause, any person from:

(A) Entering a designated gaming area of a licensed racetrack with table games, or the grounds of a racetrack licensed under this article; or

(B) Participating in any capacity in the play of any West Virginia Lottery table game, or in the operation of West Virginia Lottery table games;

(5) (A) Promulgate, or propose for promulgation, in accordance with the provision of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, any legislative, interpretive, and procedural rules the commission considers necessary for the successful implementation, administration, and enforcement of this article, and to amend or revoke any promulgated rule, in accordance with provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code, at the discretion of the commission~~.~~;

(B) Promulgate rules for the operation of secondary or satellite locations. These rules may include the maximum number of allowable table games and video lottery terminals that are permissible at a secondary or satellite location; and

(C) Any rule proposed by the commission before September 1, 2007, may be promulgated as an emergency rule;

(6) Upon the effective date of this article and prior to promulgation of emergency rules, the commission may accept applications, evaluate qualifications of applicants, and undertake initial review of licenses for: Racetracks under §29-22C-8 of this code; suppliers §29-22C-11 of this code; racetrack employees under §29-22C-12 of this code; and providers of management services under §29-22C-13 of this code; and

(7) Exercise any other powers necessary to effectuate the provisions of this article and the rules of the commission.

§29-22C-6. Licenses required.

(a) ~~No~~ A person may not engage in any activity in connection with a racetrack with West Virginia Lottery table games in this state for which a license is required by this article or rules of the commission unless all necessary licenses have been obtained in accordance with this article and rules of the commission.

(b) Licenses are required for the following purposes:

(1) For any person operating a racetrack West Virginia Lottery table game in the state;

(2) For any person supplying a racetrack table games licensee with gaming equipment or gaming equipment services;

(3) For any individual employed by a racetrack table games licensee in connection with the operation of West Virginia Lottery table games in the state; and

(4) For any person providing management services under a contract to a racetrack table games licensee.

(c) The commission may not grant a license to an applicant until the commission determines that each person who has control of the applicant also meets all ~~of~~ the qualifications the applicant must meet to hold the license for which application is made. The following persons are considered to have control of an applicant:

(1) Each person associated with a corporate applicant, including any corporate holding company, parent company or subsidiary company of the applicant, but not including a bank or other licensed lending institution which holds a mortgage or other lien acquired in the ordinary course of business, who has the ability to control the activities of the corporate applicant or elect a majority of the board of directors of that corporation;

(2) Each person associated with a noncorporate applicant who directly or indirectly holds any beneficial or proprietary interest in the applicant or who the commission determines to have the ability to control the applicant; and

(3) Key personnel of an applicant, including any executive, employee or agent, having the power to exercise significant influence over decisions concerning any part of the applicants business operation.

(d) Not withstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, any license granted pursuant to the provisions of this section also authorizes the operation of a secondary location: *Provided*, That voters approve of the operation of a secondary location in a local option election pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code.

~~(d)~~(e) Any license required by this article or rules of the commission is in addition to all other licenses or permits required by applicable federal, state, or local law.

§29-22C-7. Local option election.

(a) A racetrack may not be licensed under this article to operate West Virginia Lottery table games until a local option election is held in the county in which pari-mutuel wagers are received at a racetrack licensed under §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code and the voters of that county voting on the question approve having West Virginia Lottery table games at the racetrack.

(b) The county commission shall place the question of whether a racetrack shall be permitted to operate West Virginia Lottery table games on the ballot upon the receipt of a written notice from a licensed racetrack located within that county requesting that the question be placed on the ballot.

(c) The county commission of the county in which table games would be located shall give notice to the public of the election by publication of the notice as a Class II-0 legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of §59-3-1 *et seq.* of this code and the publication area for the publication shall be the county in which the election is to be held. The date of the last publication of the notice shall fall on a date at least 30 days preceding the day of the election. A local option election shall be effective even though the date of the order of the county commission setting the election or the date of publication of notice of the election is prior to the effective date of this article if the election is otherwise held in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(d) On the local option election ballot shall be printed the following:

Shall West Virginia Lottery table games be permitted at the [name of licensed racetrack]?

[ ] Yes[ ] No

(Place a cross mark in the square next to your choice.)

(e) The local option election shall be held in conjunction with the next primary or general election scheduled more than 90 days following receipt by the county commission of the notice required by this section ~~or at a special election:~~ *~~Provided,~~* ~~That upon written request by the licensed racetrack that a special election be called, the county commission shall order a special election to be held on the question within 90 days after the receipt by the county commission of that request. The county commission may require the licensed racetrack to pay the entire cost incurred by the county to hold the special election~~. Approval shall be by a majority of the voters casting votes at the election on the question of approval or disapproval of West Virginia Lottery table games at a licensed racetrack.

(f) If the majority votes against allowing table games at a licensed racetrack, no election on the issue shall be held for a period of 104 weeks. A local option election may thereafter be held in the manner provided in this section. The process to hold another election on the question shall start anew, as if no prior request for an election on the question had been filed with county commission and as if there had been no prior election on the question.

(g) If the majority votes for allowing West Virginia Lottery table games at a licensed racetrack facility in a county, another local option election on the issue shall not be held for a period of five years. A local option election may thereafter be held in conjunction with the next primary or general election if a written petition of qualified voters residing within the county equal to at least five percent of the number of persons who were registered to vote in the next preceding general election is received by the county commission of the county in which the horse or dog racetrack is located. The petition may be in any number of counterparts. The petition shall be in the following form:

Petition For Local Option Election

We, the undersigned legally qualified voters, resident within the County of [name of county], do hereby petition that a ~~special~~ local option election be held within the County of [name of county] in conjunction with the next primary or general election upon the following question: Shall West Virginia Lottery table games be permitted at the [name of racetrack]?

Name Address Date

(Post office or street address)

§29-22C-7a. Local option election for secondary or satellite locations.

(1) A secondary or satellite location may not be licensed pursuant to this article to operate West Virginia Lottery table games, pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast, sports wagering kiosks, or video lottery terminals until a secondary local option election is held in the county in which pari-mutuel wagers are received at a racetrack licensed pursuant to §19-23-1 *et seq.* and §29-23-1 *et seq.* of this code, and the voters of that county voting on the question approve having West Virginia Lottery table games, pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast, and video lottery terminals at a secondary location operated by a racetrack licensed pursuant to §19-23-1 *et seq.* and §29-23-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(2) The county commission shall place the question of whether a racetrack licensed pursuant to §19-23-1 *et seq.* and §29-23-1 *et seq.* of this code shall be permitted to operate West Virginia Lottery table games, pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast, sports wagering kiosks, and video lottery terminals at a secondary or satellite location on the ballot upon the receipt of a written notice from a licensed racetrack located within that county requesting that the question be placed on the ballot.

(3) The county commission of the county in which the secondary or satellite location would be located shall give notice to the public of the election by publication of the notice as a Class II-0 legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of §59-3-1 *et seq.* of this code and the publication area for the publication shall be the county in which the election is to be held. The date of the last publication of the notice shall fall on a date at least 30 days preceding the day of the election. A local option election shall be effective even though the date of the order of the county commission setting the election or the date of publication of notice of the election is prior to the effective date of this article if the election is otherwise held in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(4) The following shall be printed on the local option election ballot:

Shall secondary or satellite locations for gaming be permitted to be operated by [name of licensed racetrack]?

[ ] Yes[ ] No

(Place a cross mark in the square next to your choice.)

(5) The local option election shall be held in conjunction with the next primary or general election scheduled more than 90 days following receipt by the county commission of the notice required by this section. Approval shall be by a majority of the voters casting votes at the election on the question of approval or disapproval of secondary or satellite locations operated by a licensed racetrack.

(6) If the majority votes against allowing operation of secondary or satellite locations by a licensed racetrack, no election on the issue shall be held for a period of 104 weeks. A local option election may thereafter be held in the manner provided in this section. The process to hold another election on the question shall start anew, as if no prior request for an election on the question had been filed with county commission and as if there had been no prior election on the question.

(7) If the majority votes for allowing operation of secondary or satellite locations by a licensed racetrack facility in a county, another local option election on the issue shall not be held for a period of five years. A local option election may thereafter be held in conjunction with the next primary or general election if a written petition of qualified voters residing within the county equal to at least five percent of the number of persons who were registered to vote in the next preceding general election is received by the county commission of the county in which the horse or dog racetrack is located. The petition may be in any number of counterparts. The petition shall be in the following form:

Petition For Local Option Election

We, the undersigned legally qualified voters, resident within the County of [name of County], do hereby petition that a local option election be held within the County of [name of County] in conjunction with the next primary or general election upon the following question: Shall secondary or satellite locations for gaming be permitted to be operated by [name of licensed racetrack]?

Name Address Date

(Post office or street address)

§29-22C-8. License to operate a racetrack with West Virginia Lottery table games.

(a) *Racetrack table games licenses*. — The commission may issue up to four racetrack table games licenses to operate West Virginia Lottery table games in accordance with the provisions of this article. The Legislature intends that no more than four licenses to operate a racetrack with West Virginia Lottery table games in this state shall be permitted in any event.

(b) *Grant of license*. — Upon the passage of a local option election in a county in accordance with the provisions of §29-22C-7 of this code, the commission shall immediately grant a West Virginia Lottery table games license, and a license for the right to conduct West Virginia Lottery table games as assignee to the intellectual property rights of the state, to allow the licensee to conduct West Virginia Lottery table games at the licensed pari-mutuel racetrack identified on the local option election ballot, provided that racetrack holds a valid racetrack video lottery license issued by the commission pursuant to §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code and a valid racing license granted by the West Virginia Racing Commission pursuant to the provision of §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code and has otherwise met the requirements for licensure under the provisions of this article and the rules of the commission.

(c) *Location*. — A racetrack table games license authorizes the operation of West Virginia Lottery table games on the grounds of the particular licensed facility identified in the racetrack video lottery license issued pursuant to §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code and the license to conduct horse or dog racing issued pursuant to §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(d) *Floor plan submission requirement*. — Prior to commencing the operation of any table games in a designated gaming area, a racetrack table games licensee shall submit to the commission for its approval a detailed floor plan depicting the location of the designated gaming area in which table games gaming equipment will be located and its proposed arrangement of the table games gaming equipment. Any floor plan submission that satisfies the requirements of the rules promulgated by the commission shall be considered approved by the commission unless the racetrack table games licensee is notified in writing to the contrary within one month of filing a detailed floor plan.

(e) *Management service contracts. —*

(1) *Approval. —* A racetrack table games licensee may not enter into any management service contract that would permit any person other than the licensee to act as the commissions agent in operating West Virginia Lottery table games unless the management service contract is: (A) With a person licensed under this article to provide management services; (B) is in writing; and (C) the contract has been approved by the commission.

(2) *Material change*. — The licensed racetrack table games licensee shall submit any material change in a management service contract previously approved by the commission to the commission for its approval or rejection before the material change may take effect.

(3) *Prohibition on assignment or transfer*. — A management services contract may not be assigned or transferred to a third party.

(4) *Other commission approvals and licenses*. — The duties and responsibilities of a management services provider under a management services contract may not be assigned, delegated, subcontracted, or transferred to a third party to perform without the prior approval of the commission. Third parties must be licensed under this article before providing service. The commission may by rule clarify application of this subdivision and provide exceptions to its application. The commission shall license and require the display of West Virginia Lottery game logos on appropriate game surfaces and other gaming items and locations as the commission considers appropriate.

(f) *Coordination of licensed activities*. — In order to coordinate various licensed activities within racetrack facilities, the following provisions apply to licensed racetrack facilities:

(1) The provisions of this article and of §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code shall be interpreted to allow West Virginia Lottery table games and racetrack video lottery operations under those articles to be harmoniously conducted in the same designated gaming area.

(2) On the effective date of this article, the provisions of §29-22C-23 of this code apply to all video lottery games conducted within a racetrack facility, notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions contained in §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code to the contrary.

(3) On and after the effective date of this article, vacation of the premises after service of beverages ceases is not required, notwithstanding to the contrary any inconsistent provisions of this code or inconsistent rules promulgated by the Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner with respect to hours of sale of those beverages~~,~~ or required vacation of the premises.

(g) *Fees, expiration date and renewal*. —

(1) An initial racetrack table games license fee of $1,500,000 shall be paid to the commission at the time of issuance of the racetrack table games license, regardless of the number of months remaining in the license year for which it is issued. All licenses expire at the end of the day on September 30 each year.

(2) The commission shall annually renew a racetrack table games license as of October 1, of each year provided the licensee:

(A) Successfully renews its racetrack video lottery license under §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code before October 1;

(B) Pays to the commission the annual license renewal fee of $2,500,000 required by this section at the time it files its application for renewal of its license under §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code; and

(C) During the current license year, the licensee complied with all provisions of this article, all rules adopted by the commission and all final orders of the commission applicable to the licensee.

(3) *Annual license surcharge for failure to construct hotel on premises*. — It is the intent of the Legislature that each racetrack for which a racetrack table games license has been issued be or become a destination tourism resort facility. To that end, it is important that each racetrack for which a racetrack table games license has been issued operate a hotel with significant amenities. Therefore, in addition to all other taxes and fees required by the provisions of this article, there is hereby imposed, upon each racetrack for which a racetrack table games license has been issued an annual license surcharge, payable to the commission in the amount of $2,500,000 if that racetrack does not operate a hotel on its racing property that contains at least 150 guest rooms with significant amenities within three years of the passage of the local option election in its county authorizing table games at the racetrack, provided the time for completion of the hotel shall be extended by the same number of days as the completion of the hotel is delayed by a force majeure events or conditions beyond the reasonable control of the racetrack licensee. The surcharge shall be paid upon each renewal of its racetrack table games license made after the expiration of the three year period~~,~~ and may be extended by the above force majeure events or conditions, until the racetrack opens a qualifying hotel.

(4) If the licensee fails to apply to renew its license under §19-23-1 *et seq.* and §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code until after the license expires, the commission shall renew its license under this article at the time it renews its license under §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code provided the licensee has paid the annual license fee required by this section and during the preceding license year the licensee complied with all provisions of this article, all rules adopted by the commission and all final orders of the commission applicable to the licensee.

(h) *Facility qualifications*. — A racetrack table games licensee shall demonstrate that the racetrack with West Virginia Lottery table games will: (1) Be accessible to disabled individuals in accordance with applicable federal and state laws; (2) be licensed in accordance with this article, and all other applicable federal, state, and local laws; and (3) meet any other qualifications specified in rules adopted by the commission.

(i) *Surety bond*.— A racetrack table games licensee shall execute a surety bond to be given to the state to guarantee the licensee faithfully makes all payments in accordance with the provisions of this article and rules promulgated by the commission. The surety bond shall be:

(1) In the amount determined by the commission to be adequate to protect the state against nonpayment by the licensee of amounts due the state under this article;

(2) In a form approved by the commission; and

(3) With a surety approved by the commission who is licensed to write surety insurance in this state. The bond shall remain in effect during the term of the license and may not be canceled by a surety on less than 30 days’ notice in writing to the commission. The total and aggregate liability of the surety on the bond is limited to the amount specified in the bond.

(j) *Authorization*. — A racetrack table games license authorizes the licensee act as an agent of the commission in operating an unlimited amount of West Virginia Lottery table games while the license is active, subject to subsection (d) of this section. A racetrack table games license is not transferable or assignable and cannot be sold or pledged as collateral.

(k) *Audits*. — When applying for a license and annually thereafter prior to license renewal, a racetrack table games licensee shall submit to the commission an annual audit, by a certified public accountant, of the financial transactions and condition of the licensees total operations. The audit shall be made in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable federal and state laws.

(l) *Commission office space*. — A racetrack table games licensee shall provide to the commission, at no cost to the commission, suitable office space at the racetrack facility for the commission to perform the duties required of it by this article and the rules of the commission.

(m) Notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary, a licensed racetrack may establish a secondary location for its business, including authorized racetrack table games, video lottery terminals, sports wagering kiosks, and pari-mutuel wagering on simulcasts at any building owned or leased by the licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located: *Provided*, That the licensed racetrack receives approval from the State Lottery Commission and has received voter approval pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code. The total amount of locations a licensed racetrack may operate within a county is two locations: *Provided, however*, That if any licensed racetrack relocates racetrack table games outside of a municipality, the municipality may receive the share of funds it received under §29-22C-27 of this code up to the amount received in the fiscal year immediately preceding the relocation of the racetrack table games and the excess of this amount shall be divided proportionally to that municipality and the new municipality, if any, based on the revenues generated at each location: *Provided, further,* That the total amount of funds transferred to the municipalities may not be in excess of the percentage provided for under §29-22C-27 of this code: *And provided further*, That any licensed racetrack establishing a secondary location shall continue to operate its original facility and continue to maintain and offer amenities, accommodations, options, and services at the original facility, and shall continue to maintain and offer the same level of amenities, accommodations, options, and services as of the effective date of the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2023. As used in this subsection, amenities, accommodations, options, and services may include, but are not limited to, table games, video lottery terminals, live racing, and sports wagering kiosks offered to the public.

(n) Additional license or additional fees are not required, and further surety bond is not required to operate a secondary or satellite location. Any license obtained pursuant to this section, any licensing fees as incident to either of those licenses, and any required surety bond allows operation of a secondary or satellite location. Any license issued pursuant to §29-22A-1 *et seq.* of this code, §29-22D-1 *et seq.* of this code, and §19-23-1 *et seq.* of this code would also extend to any secondary or satellite location as those terms are defined in §29-22C-3 of this code. The secondary location is not required to operate a racetrack.

§29-22D-15. Authorization of sports wagering in this state; requirements.

(a) An operator shall accept wagers on sports events and other events authorized under this article from persons physically present in a licensed gaming facility where authorized sports wagering occurs, or from persons not physically present who wager by means of electronic devices. A person placing a wager shall be at least 21 years of age.

(b) An operator may accept wagers from an individual physically located within this state using a mobile or other digital platform or a sports wagering device, approved by the commission, through the patron’s sports wagering account.

(c) An operator may accept wagers from an individual physically located in a state or jurisdiction with which the commission has entered into a sports wagering agreement using a mobile or other digital platform or a sports wagering device through the patron’s sports wagering account, so long as the device or platform is approved by the commission and all other requirements of the agreement are satisfied.

(d) The commission or operator may ban any person from entering a gaming area of a gaming facility conducting sports wagering or the grounds of a gaming facility licensed under this article or from participating in the play or operation of any West Virginia Lottery sports wagering. A log of all excluded players shall be kept by the commission and each licensee, and no player on the commission’s exclusion list or the licensed operator’s exclusion list shall wager on any West Virginia Lottery sports wagering under this article.

(e) The commission shall promulgate regulations implementing the provisions of §29-22D-15(a) of this code by interpretive rule and minimum internal control standards.

(f) The commission shall, when a federal law is enacted or repealed or when a federal court decision is issued that permits a state to regulate sports wagering, publish a notice in the State Register notifying the public of the enactment or repeal of federal law or of the issuance of such court decision. The commission ~~shall~~ may not be authorized to conduct sports wagering in this state until the notice prescribed in this subsection is published in the State Register.

(g) ~~No~~ A licensed gaming facility employee may not place a wager on any sports wagering at the employer’s facility or through any other mobile application or digital platform of their employer.

(h) ~~No~~ A commission employee may not knowingly wager or be paid any prize from any wager placed at any licensed gaming facility with West Virginia Lottery sports wagering within this state or at any facility outside this jurisdiction that is directly or indirectly owned or operated by a sports wagering licensee.

(i) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a licensed racetrack may establish a secondary location for its business at any building owned or leased by the licensed racetrack within the county the licensed racetrack is located to provide sports wagering kiosks so long as the licensed racetrack receives approval from the State Lottery Commission: *Provided*, That it has received voter approval pursuant to §29-22C-7a of this code. The total amount of locations a licensed racetrack may operate within a county is two locations: *Provided, however*, That any licensed racetrack establishing a secondary location shall continue to operate its original facility and continue to maintain and offer amenities, accommodations, options, and services at such original facility, and shall continue to maintain and offer the same level of amenities, accommodations, options, and services as of the effective date of the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2023. As used in this subsection, amenities, accommodations, options, and services may include, but are not limited to, table games, video lottery terminals, live racing, and sports wagering kiosks offered to the public.