

HOUSE BILL 572

C7

01r0822

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Charitable Gaming – Poker Events**

3 **PG 314–10**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain qualified organizations in Prince George's
5 County to hold poker events in which the public may play poker card games;
6 limiting the number of poker events that a qualified organization may hold;
7 requiring that a qualified organization obtain a permit from the County
8 Department of Environmental Resources before holding a poker event;
9 specifying that the conditions under which a permit for a poker event is issued
10 shall be the same with certain exceptions that apply to a charitable gaming
11 permit under the County Code; and generally relating to charitable gaming in
12 Prince George's County.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Criminal Law
15 Section 13–1901(a) and (c) and 13–1902(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Criminal Law
20 Section 13–1912
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
24 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Criminal Law**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 13-1901.

2 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (c) (1) "Qualified organization" means an organization of a group of
4 citizens of the county or a company, association, or corporation that is organized in
5 good faith in the county to promote the purposes of a volunteer fire department or of a
6 charitable, benevolent, patriotic, fraternal, educational, religious, or civic object.

7 (2) "Qualified organization" does not include a group organized for the
8 private profit or gain of any member of the group, company, association, or
9 corporation.

10 13-1902.

11 (a) This subtitle applies only in Prince George's County.

12 13-1912.

13 (a) In this section:

14 (1) "casino night" means a benefit performance at which:

15 (i) a card game, wheel of chance, or roulette is played; and

16 (ii) money winnings or tokens redeemable in money are
17 awarded as prizes; but

18 (2) "casino night" does not include a benefit performance at which the
19 only form of gaming is a wheel of fortune, big wheel, or other wheel of chance.

20 (b) (1) **[This] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS**
21 **SECTION, THIS** subtitle and Subtitle 2 of this title do not authorize casino nights in
22 the county.

23 (2) **[A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS**
24 **SECTION, A** person may not conduct a casino night in the county.

25 **(C) (1) A QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION MAY CONDUCT A POKER EVENT**
26 **THAT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN WHICH ONLY POKER CARD GAMES ARE**
27 **PLAYED.**

28 **(2) A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION MAY NOT HOLD MORE THAN**
29 **ONE POKER EVENT PER MONTH.**

1 **(3) BEFORE CONDUCTING A POKER EVENT, A QUALIFIED**
2 **ORGANIZATION SHALL OBTAIN A PERMIT FROM THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF**
3 **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES.**

4 **(4) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF**
5 **THIS SUBSECTION, CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH A PERMIT FOR A POKER EVENT**
6 **IS ISSUED SHALL BE THE SAME AS THOSE THAT APPLY TO A CHARITABLE**
7 **GAMING EVENT PERMIT UNDER SUBTITLE 5, DIVISION 2 OF THE COUNTY CODE,**
8 **INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMIT APPLICATIONS, USE OF PROCEEDS,**
9 **HOURS OF OPERATION, WORKER LICENSING, ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTING,**
10 **FEES, AND PRIZE AMOUNTS.**

11 **[(c)] (D)** A person who violates this section or a county ordinance enacted
12 under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to
13 imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 July 1, 2010.