

No. 15

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 12)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Commission on Gambling

FOR the purpose of requesting that a study commission be established to study the feasibility and possibility of various forms of gambling being developed in this State; making recommendations as to the demographics of such gambling; and generally relating to gambling in Maryland certain aspects of the legalized gambling industry in the State of Maryland and requiring the Commission to report its findings to the General Assembly by a certain date.

WHEREAS, The Daily Lottery has been successful far beyond the expectations and predictions of its strongest proponents; and

WHEREAS, The Lottery has become a substantial source of revenue to the State and other forms of gambling should be explored to determine if further development would be advantageous to the State's economy; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State have chosen to vote in favor of the Lottery and other forms of gambling such as horse racing and bingo have been legalized; and

WHEREAS, A comprehensive study is needed to investigate allegations concerning organized crime, its actual and possible infiltration if gambling were to be extended to other forms in the State; and

WHEREAS, A study is also needed to determine the possibility, desirability, and the effect on the well being of the State should gambling be extended to other forms and locations within the State; now, therefore, be it unexpectedly succeeded in becoming the State's third largest revenue source with gross revenue intake of approximately \$5 million weekly; and

WHEREAS, The people of Maryland have chosen to vote in favor of the Lottery and other forms of legalized gambling such as horse racing and bingo; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland, as a result of the acceptability of such legalized gambling practices, appears to have become inadvertently dependent on legalized gambling revenue as a major source of State revenue; and

WHEREAS, There is concern that the principal source of certain legalized gambling revenue is derived from persons residing in low income areas; and