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HOUSE BILL NO. 2632

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled January 10, 2007

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 51.5-40 and 58.1-4009 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the State Lottery Department; lottery sales agents.

Patron—Reid

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 51.5-40 and 58.1-4009 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 51.5-40. Nondiscrimination under state grants and programs.

No otherwise qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving state financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by or on behalf of any state agency. The Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to implement this section. Such regulations shall be consistent, whenever applicable, with regulations imposed under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. *For purposes of this chapter, a private, nongovernmental entity that sells a product, license, or other thing on behalf of an agency of the Commonwealth pursuant to a license or other regulatory process shall not on that basis alone be deemed to be under any program or activity receiving state financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by or on behalf of any state agency.*

§ 58.1-4009. Licensing of lottery sales agents; penalty.

A. No license as an agent to sell lottery tickets or shares shall be issued to any person to engage in business primarily as a lottery sales agent. Before issuing such license the Director shall consider such factors as (i) the financial responsibility and security of the person and his business or activity; (ii) the accessibility of his place of business or activity to the public; (iii) the sufficiency of existing licensees to serve the public convenience; and (iv) the volume of expected sales. *Nothing in this subsection or in any regulations adopted by the Board pursuant to this subsection shall be the basis for a claim of any kind whatsoever by a third party.*

B. For the purposes of this section, the term "person" means an individual, association, partnership, corporation, club, trust, estate, society, company, joint stock company, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee, or any other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination of individuals. "Person" also means all departments, commissions, agencies and instrumentalities of the Commonwealth, including counties, cities, municipalities, agencies and instrumentalities thereof.

C. The chief security officer of the State Lottery Department shall conduct a background investigation, to include a Virginia Criminal History Records search, and fingerprints that shall be submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation if the Director deems a National Criminal Records search necessary, on applicants for licensure as lottery sales agents. The Director may refuse to issue a license to operate as an agent to sell lottery tickets or shares to any person who has been (i) convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) convicted of bookmaking or other forms of illegal gambling, (iii) found guilty of any fraud or misrepresentation in any connection, (iv) convicted of a felony, or (v) engaged in conduct prejudicial to public confidence in the Lottery. The Director may refuse to grant a license or may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a license issued pursuant to this chapter to a partnership or corporation, if he determines that any general or limited partner, or officer or director of such partnership or corporation has been (i) convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) convicted of bookmaking or other forms of illegal gambling, (iii) found guilty of any fraud or misrepresentation in any connection, (iv) convicted of a felony, or (v) engaged in conduct prejudicial to public confidence in the Lottery. Whoever knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or misrepresents a material fact or knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or representation in any application for licensure to the State Lottery Department for lottery sales agent, shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

D. Prior to issuance of a license, every lottery sales agent shall either (i) be bonded by a surety company entitled to do business in this Commonwealth in such amount and penalty as may be prescribed by the regulations of the Department or (ii) provide such other surety as may be satisfactory to the Director, payable to the State Lottery Department and conditioned upon the faithful performance

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of his duties.

E. Every licensed agent shall prominently display his license, or a copy thereof, as provided in the regulations of the Department.