

13 An act relating to authorizing the issuance of limited wagering event
14 permits for poker games and tournaments

15 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

16 Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 1209 is added to read:

§ 1209. LIMITED WAGERING EVENT PERMIT

18 (a) As used in this section:

19 (1) “Adjusted gross receipts” means the gross receipts less winnings
20 paid to wagerers.

1 (2) “Limited wagering event permit” means a permit issued by the
2 Department of Liquor and Lottery that authorizes a wagering event operator to
3 hold a wagering event.

4 (3) “Wagering event” means an event not to exceed 72 hours in which
5 wagerers may participate in poker games or tournaments.

6 (4) “Wagering event operator” means a person who is the responsible
7 operator and administrator of a poker game or tournament.

8 (b) The Board of Liquor and Lottery is authorized to issue limited wagering
9 event permits to wagering event operators. A person may apply to the
10 Department of Liquor and Lottery to operate a single wagering event, at an
11 approved location, not to exceed 72 hours in duration. The Board shall not
12 issue more than five limited wagering event permits annually. The Board shall
13 not issue more than one limited wagering event permit to the same person in a
14 given calendar year.

15 (c) A wagering event operator shall be assessed a fee of \$500.00 for a
16 limited wagering event permit.

17 (d) A wagering event operator shall submit an application on a form
18 adopted by the Board of Liquor and Lottery. A wagering event operator shall
19 submit the following information to the Department:

1 operator applicant in lieu of obtaining those records from the Vermont Crime
2 Information Center. The third-party background check shall:
3 (1) be conducted by a third-party consumer reporting agency or
4 background screening company that is in compliance with the federal Fair
5 Credit Reporting Act; and
6 (2) include a multistate and multijurisdictional criminal record locator.
7 (g) The holder of a limited wagering event permit shall pay a tax of 35
8 percent of the adjusted gross receipts from the wagering event. The
9 Commissioner of Taxes is authorized to collect and administer the tax pursuant
10 to this section, and the tax shall be paid and collected in the same manner as an
11 income tax under 32 V.S.A. chapter 151. A licensee liable for the tax imposed
12 by this section shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes a return and any other
13 information required by the Commissioner along with the tax due within 15
14 days after the end of the wagering event. The Commissioner shall deposit all
15 tax revenue collected pursuant to this section in the Education Fund established
16 in 16 V.S.A. § 4025.

17 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.