

Senate Bill 208

By: Senator Hickman of the 4th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government,  
2 so as to authorize and provide for the regulation and taxation of sports betting in this state;  
3 to provide for additional powers and duties of the Georgia Lottery Corporation; to provide  
4 for the corporation to engage in certain activities related to sports betting; to provide for a  
5 short title; to provide for legislative findings; to revise and provide for definitions; to provide  
6 for the corporation's powers and duties relative to sports betting; to provide for the  
7 procedures, limitations, requirements, and qualifications of the licensing of any person  
8 offering, operating, or managing sports betting in this state; to provide for rules and  
9 regulations promulgated by the corporation; to provide for a privilege tax; to require certain  
10 reports; to regulate wagers and provide requirements for bettors; to provide for bettors to  
11 restrict themselves from placing certain wagers; to provide certain resources for individuals  
12 with problem gambling or a betting or gambling disorder; to provide for the collection and  
13 disposition of fees and fines; to prohibit certain conduct by the corporation, employees of the  
14 corporation, licensees, and other persons; to provide for certain penalties; to provide for  
15 construction; to amend Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of  
16 Georgia Annotated, relating to gambling, so as to exclude any consideration paid to a sports  
17 betting licensee from the definition of "bet"; to provide for the exemption of persons licensed  
18 for online sports betting from regulations and restrictions regarding gambling information;

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19 to amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and  
20 taxation, so as to exempt wagers placed as part of sports betting; to provide for related  
21 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

23 **PART I**  
24 **SECTION 1-1.**

25 Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government, is amended  
26 in Code Section 50-27-3, relating to definitions for the "Georgia Lottery for Education Act,"  
27 by revising paragraphs (13) and (20) and adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

28 "(13) 'Lottery,' 'lotteries,' 'lottery game,' or 'lottery games' means any game of chance  
29 approved by the board and operated pursuant to this chapter, including, but not limited  
30 to, instant tickets, ~~on-line~~ online games, online sports betting, and games using  
31 mechanical or electronic devices but excluding pari-mutuel betting and casino gambling  
32 as defined in this Code section."

33 "(20) 'Pari-mutuel betting' means a method or system of wagering on actual races  
34 involving horses or dogs at tracks which involves the distribution of winnings by pools.  
35 Such term shall not mean lottery games which may be predicated on a horse racing or dog  
36 racing scheme that does not involve actual track events. Such term shall not mean the  
37 lottery game of sports betting or traditional lottery games which may involve the  
38 distribution of winnings by pools."

39 "(23.1) 'Sports betting' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section  
40 50-27-122."

41 **SECTION 1-2.**

42 Said title is further amended in Code Section 50-27-9, relating to general powers of the  
 43 Georgia Lottery Corporation, by revising paragraphs (18) and (19) of subsection (a) and  
 44 adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

45 "(18) To act as a retailer, to conduct promotions which involve the dispensing of lottery  
 46 tickets or shares, and to establish and operate a sales facility to sell lottery tickets or  
 47 shares and any related merchandise; ~~and~~

48 (19) To perform any actions and carry out any responsibilities provided for in Article 4  
 49 of this chapter; and

50 ~~(19)~~(20) To adopt and amend such regulations, policies, and procedures as necessary to  
 51 carry out and implement its powers and duties, organize and operate the corporation,  
 52 regulate the conduct of lottery games in general, and any other matters necessary or  
 53 desirable for the efficient and effective operation of the lottery or the convenience of the  
 54 public. The promulgation of any such regulations, policies, and procedures pursuant to  
 55 this article and Article 2 of this chapter shall be exempt from the requirements of Chapter  
 56 13 of this title, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act.' Notwithstanding any other  
 57 provision of law to the contrary, hearings related to any dispute between licensees under  
 58 Code Section 50-27-102 shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of  
 59 Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 9, the 'Georgia Arbitration Code.' All other hearings and  
 60 any rules, regulations, policies, or procedures related to the administration, enforcement,  
 61 or violation of this article shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 13 of this title."

62

63 **PART II**64 **SECTION 2-1.**

65 Said title is further amended by adding a new article to Chapter 27, relating to the "Georgia  
 66 Lottery for Education Act," to read as follows:

67 "ARTICLE 4

68 Part 1

69 50-27-120.

70 This article shall be known and may be cited as the 'Georgia Lottery Game of Sports  
71 Betting Act.'

72 50-27-121.

73 The General Assembly finds that:

74 (1) Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII(c) of the Constitution of the State of Georgia  
75 authorizes the General Assembly to provide by law for any matters relating to purposes  
76 or provisions of that subparagraph, which purposes and provisions include the operation  
77 and regulation of a lottery or lotteries and which purposes and provisions may encompass  
78 sports betting as a game or games offered by the Georgia Lottery Corporation;

79 (2) Sports betting shall be overseen and regulated, and may also be offered, by the  
80 Georgia Lottery Corporation in a manner that provides continuing entertainment to the  
81 public, maximizes revenues, and ensures that sports betting is operated in this state with  
82 integrity and dignity and free of political influence;

83 (3) The corporation shall be accountable to the General Assembly and to the public for  
84 the management and oversight of sports betting in this state through a system of audits  
85 and reports;

86 (4) The ability to offer sports betting in this state under a license issued in accordance  
87 with this article constitutes a taxable privilege and not a right;

88 (5) Net proceeds of sports betting conducted pursuant to this article shall be used for the  
89 purposes authorized by Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII of the Constitution of  
90 Georgia; and

91 (6) In accordance with Code Section 50-27-2, sports betting shall be conducted in a  
92 manner so as to safeguard the fiscal soundness of the state, to enhance public welfare, and  
93 to support the funding authorized by Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII of the  
94 Constitution of Georgia.

95 50-27-122.

96 As used in this article, the term:

97 (1) 'Adjusted gross income' means the total of all moneys paid to a licensee as bets minus  
98 federal excise taxes and minus the total amount paid out to winning bettors, including the  
99 cash value of merchandise.

100 (2) 'Applicant' means any person that applies for a license under this article.

101 (3) 'Bettor' means an individual who is:

102 (A) Physically present in this state when placing a wager with a licensee;

103 (B) Twenty-one years of age or older; and

104 (C) Not prohibited from placing a wager or bet under Code Section 50-27-162.

105 (4) 'Bond' means a bond held in escrow for the purpose of maintaining adequate reserves  
106 to account for losses suffered by a licensee and owed to bettors.

107 (5) 'Cheating' means improving the chances of winning or altering the outcome through  
108 deception, interference, or manipulation of a sporting event or of any equipment,  
109 including software, pertaining to or used in relation to the equipment used for or in  
110 connection with the sporting event on which wagers are placed or invited. Such term  
111 shall include match fixing and attempts and conspiracy to cheat.

112 (6) 'Collegiate sporting event' means a sporting or athletic event involving a sports or  
113 athletic team of a public or private institution of higher education.

114 (7) 'Esports event' means an organized video game competition between players who  
115 play individually or as teams.

116 (8) 'Fantasy or simulated contest' means a game or event in which one or more players  
117 compete based on winning outcomes that reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the  
118 players and are determined predominately by accumulated statistical results of the  
119 performance of individuals, including, but not limited to, athletes in sporting events.

120 (9) 'Fixed-odds betting' means bets made at predetermined odds or on the spread where  
121 the return to the bettor is unaffected by any later change in odds or the spread.

122 (10) 'Futures bet' means a wager made on the occurrence of an event in the future  
123 relating to a sporting event.

124 (11) 'Institutional investor' means:

125 (A) A retirement fund administered by a public agency for the exclusive benefit of  
126 federal, state, or local public employees;

127 (B) An investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940;

128 (C) A chartered or licensed life insurance company or property and casualty insurance  
129 company;

130 (D) A banking and other chartered or licensed lending institution;

131 (E) An investment advisor registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; or

132 (F) A pension investment board.

133 (12) 'License' means any of the licenses issued by the corporation under this article.

134 (13) 'Licensee' means a person that holds a license issued by the corporation under this  
135 article.

136 (14) 'Master sports betting licensee' means the Georgia Lottery Corporation.

137 (15) 'Material nonpublic information' means information that has not been disseminated  
138 publicly concerning an athlete, contestant, prospective contestant, or athletic team,  
139 including, without limitation, confidential information related to medical conditions or  
140 treatment, physical or mental health or conditioning, physical therapy or recovery,  
141 discipline, sanctions, academic status, education records, eligibility, playbooks, signals,

142 schemes, techniques, game plans, practices, strategies, assessments, systems, drills, or  
143 recordings of practices or other athletic activities.

144 (16) 'Minor' means an individual who is less than 21 years of age.

145 (17) 'Money line' means the fixed odds in relation to a dollar amount that a team or  
146 person participating in a sporting event will win outright regardless of the spread.

147 (18) 'Official event data' means statistics, results, outcomes, and other data related to a  
148 sporting event obtained pursuant to an agreement with the relevant sporting events  
149 operator whose corporate headquarters is based in the United States or an entity expressly  
150 authorized by such sporting events operator to provide such information to licensees for  
151 purposes of determining the outcome of tier 2 sports wagers on such sporting event.

152 (19) 'Official league data' means statistics, results, outcomes, and other data related to  
153 a sporting event obtained pursuant to an agreement with the relevant professional sports  
154 governing body whose corporate headquarters is based in the United States or an entity  
155 expressly authorized by such professional sports governing body to provide such  
156 information to licensees for purposes of determining the outcome of tier 2 sports wagers.

157 (20) 'Online sports betting' means a wager on a sporting event that is placed via the  
158 internet through any electronic device and accepted through an online sports betting  
159 platform that is operated by a Type 1 sports betting licensee or such licensee's online  
160 sports betting services provider.

161 (21) 'Online sports betting platform' means the combination of hardware, software, and  
162 data networks used to manage, administer, or control online sports betting and any  
163 associated wagers accessible by any electronic means.

164 (22) 'Online sports betting services provider' means a person that contracts with the  
165 master sports betting licensee or a Type 1 sports betting licensee under Code Section  
166 50-27-133 to operate online sports betting on behalf of such licensee and that is licensed  
167 by the corporation.

168 (23) 'Over/under bet' means a single wager that predicts whether the combined score of  
169 the two persons or teams engaged in a sporting event will be lower or higher than a  
170 predetermined number.

171 (24) 'Parlay bet' means a single wager that incorporates two or more individual bets for  
172 purposes of earning a higher payout if each bet incorporated within the wager wins.

173 (25) 'Principal owner' means a person that owns an interest of 10 percent or more of the  
174 entity.

175 (26) 'Professional sporting event' means an athletic or sporting event involving at least  
176 two competitors who have the opportunity to receive compensation for participating in  
177 such event.

178 (27) 'Professional sports governing body' means the organization, league, or association  
179 that oversees a sport and prescribes final rules and enforces codes of conduct with respect  
180 to such sport and participants therein.

181 (28) 'Professional sports team' means a major league professional team:

182 (A) Based in this state;

183 (B) That plays baseball, football, men's basketball, soccer, or women's basketball; and

184 (C) Whose regular season games have had the highest attendance for its respective  
185 sport during the past five years.

186 (29) 'Proposition bet' means a wager on a single specific action, statistic, occurrence, or  
187 nonoccurrence to be determined during a sporting event and includes any such action,  
188 statistic, occurrence, or nonoccurrence that does not directly affect the final outcome of  
189 the sporting event to which it relates.

190 (30) 'Relative' means a spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother,  
191 brother, sister, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law,  
192 son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother,  
193 stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, or half-sister.

194 (31) 'Sporting event' means any:

195 (A) Professional sporting event, including motor sports sanctioned by a national or  
196 international organization or association;

197 (B) Collegiate sporting event;

198 (C) Olympic sporting or athletic event;

199 (D) Sporting or athletic event sanctioned by a national or international organization or  
200 association;

201 (E) Sporting or athletic event conducted or organized by a sporting events operator;

202 (F) Esports event; or

203 (G) Other event authorized by the corporation.

204 Such term shall not include a nonprofessional or non-Olympic sporting or athletic event  
205 if the majority of the participants are under the age of 18.

206 (32) 'Sporting events operator' means a person that conducts or organizes a sporting  
207 event for athletes or other participants that is not held or sanctioned as an official sporting  
208 event of a professional sports governing body.

209 (33) 'Sports betting' means online sports betting.

210 (34) 'Sports betting equipment' means any of the following that is directly used in  
211 connection with the operation of sports betting:

212 (A) Any mechanical, electronic, or other device, mechanism, or equipment;

213 (B) Any software, application, components, or other goods; or

214 (C) Anything to be installed or used on a patron's personal electronic device.

215 (35)(A) 'Sports betting supplier' means a person that directly provides sports betting  
216 equipment necessary for the creation of sports betting markets and the determination  
217 of bet outcomes to any licensee involved in the acceptance of bets, including any of the  
218 following:

219 (i) Providers of data feeds and odds services;

220 (ii) Internet platform providers;

221 (iii) Risk management providers;

- 222 (iv) Integrity monitoring providers; and  
223 (v) Other providers of sports betting supplier services as determined by the  
224 corporation.
- 225 (B) Such term shall not include a professional sports governing body that:  
226 (i) Provides official league data concerning its own sporting event to a sports betting  
227 licensee solely on that basis; or  
228 (ii) Provides raw statistical match data to one or more designated and licensed  
229 suppliers of data feeds and odds services solely on that basis.
- 230 (36) 'Spread' means the predicted scoring differential between two persons or teams  
231 engaged in a sporting event.
- 232 (37) 'Supervisory employee' means a principal owner or employee having the authority  
233 to act on behalf of a licensee or whose judgment is relied upon to manage and advance  
234 the business operations of a licensee.
- 235 (38) 'Tier 1 sports wager' means a sports wager that is determined solely by the final  
236 score or final outcome of the sporting event and is placed before the sporting event has  
237 begun.
- 238 (39) 'Tier 2 sports wager' means a wager that is not a tier 1 sports wager.
- 239 (40) 'Type 1 eligible entity' means any of the following:  
240 (A) Any professional sports team, or its designee;  
241 (B) A professional sports governing body that holds one or more sanctioned annual  
242 golf tournaments on a national tour of professional golf in this state, and has held one  
243 or more of the same or different sanctioned annual golf tournaments on a national tour  
244 of professional golf in this state for at least 30 years;  
245 (C) The owner of a facility in this state that has held an annual invitational golf  
246 tournament for professional and amateur golfers for at least 30 years;  
247 (D) The owner of a facility located in this state that hosts automobile races on a  
248 national association for stock car racing national tour or a wholly owned for-profit

249 subsidiary of the owner of such a facility, if the owner is a nonprofit corporation or  
250 nonprofit organization;

251 (E) The Georgia Lottery Corporation; and

252 (F) Any entity that directly, or through one of its members or shareholders, has been  
253 approved in this state by the National Steeplechase Association for at least six months  
254 prior to the effective date of this article.

255 (41) 'Type 1 sports betting licensee' means the master sports betting licensee, an online  
256 sports betting services provider that contracts with the master sports betting licensee, or  
257 a Type 1 eligible entity licensed or authorized by the corporation to directly or indirectly  
258 offer online sports betting.

259 (42) 'Wager' or 'bet' means a sum of money that is risked by a bettor on the unknown  
260 outcome of one or more sporting events. Such term shall be limited to fixed-odds betting,  
261 futures bets, a tier 1 or tier 2 sports wager, a money line bet, an over/under bet, a parlay  
262 bet, a proposition bet, or a bet on the spread. Such term shall not include a pari-mutuel  
263 bet or wager or an entry fee paid to participate in a fantasy or simulated contest.

264 50-27-123.

265 (a) The corporation shall have all powers and duties necessary to carry out the provisions  
266 of this article and to exercise the control of the lottery game of sports betting in this state  
267 as authorized by this article. Such powers and duties shall include, but shall not be limited  
268 to, the following:

269 (1) To have jurisdiction, supervision, and regulatory authority over sports betting,  
270 including, but not limited to, regulation, licensure, and offering of sports betting on  
271 mobile applications available state wide via the internet and through a limited number of  
272 licenses to be awarded to Type 1 sports betting licensees;

273 (2) To have jurisdiction and supervision of all persons conducting, participating in, or  
274 attending any facility with sports betting;

275 (3) To appoint and employ such persons as the corporation deems essential to perform  
276 its duties under this article and to ensure that such sports betting is conducted with order  
277 and the highest integrity. Such employees shall possess such authority and perform such  
278 duties as the corporation shall prescribe or delegate to them. Such employees shall be  
279 compensated as provided by the corporation;

280 (4) To enter upon, investigate, and have free access to all places of business of any  
281 licensee under this article and to compel the production of any books, ledgers, documents,  
282 records, memoranda, or other information of any licensee to ensure such licensee's  
283 compliance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the corporation pursuant to this  
284 article. Such rules and regulations shall be exempt from the requirements of Chapter 13  
285 of this title, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act';

286 (5) To promulgate any rules and regulations as the corporation deems necessary and  
287 proper to administer the provisions of this article; provided, however, that the initial rules  
288 and regulations governing sports betting shall be promulgated and adopted by the  
289 corporation within 90 days of the effective date of this article after an opportunity has  
290 been provided for public comment. The promulgation and adoption of such initial rules  
291 and regulations shall not be subject to Chapter 13 of this title, the 'Georgia Administrative  
292 Procedure Act';

293 (6) To issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses before the corporation, administer  
294 oaths, and compel production of records or other documents and testimony of witnesses  
295 whenever, in the judgment of the corporation, it is necessary to do so for the effectual  
296 discharge of the duties of the corporation under this article;

297 (7) To compel any person licensed by the corporation to file with the corporation such  
298 data, documents, and information as shall appear to the corporation to be necessary for  
299 the performance of the duties of the corporation under this article, including, but not  
300 limited to, financial statements and information relative to stockholders and all others  
301 with a pecuniary interest in such person;

- 302 (8) To prescribe the manner in which books and records of persons licensed or permitted  
303 by the corporation under this article shall be kept;
- 304 (9) To enter into arrangements with any foreign or domestic government or  
305 governmental agency for the purposes of exchanging information or performing any other  
306 act to better ensure the proper conduct of betting under this article;
- 307 (10) To order such audits, in addition to those otherwise required by this article, as the  
308 corporation deems necessary and desirable;
- 309 (11) Upon the receipt of a complaint of an alleged criminal violation of this article, to  
310 immediately report such complaint to the appropriate law enforcement agency with  
311 jurisdiction to investigate criminal activity;
- 312 (12) To provide for the reporting of the applicable amount of state and federal income  
313 tax of persons claiming a prize or payoff for a winning wager under this article;
- 314 (13) To establish and administer a program for providing assistance to problem  
315 gamblers, including, but not limited to, requiring the electronic posting of signs,  
316 notifications, or other relevant responsible gambling information in a clear and  
317 conspicuous manner on online sports betting platforms, including a national toll-free  
318 number that directs callers to an organization that provides assistance to problem  
319 gamblers;
- 320 (14) To eject or exclude from the sports betting facility or any part thereof any  
321 individual, whether licensed or not, whose conduct or reputation is such that his or her  
322 presence may, in the opinion of the corporation or the designated employees of the  
323 corporation, reflect adversely on the honesty and integrity of the sports betting or  
324 interfere with the orderly conduct of the lottery game of sports betting;
- 325 (15) To keep a true and full record of all proceedings of the corporation under this article  
326 and preserve at the corporation's general office all books, documents, and papers of the  
327 corporation; and

328 (16) To adopt rules and regulations specific to the manner in which a licensee may  
329 advertise its business operations as authorized by this article.

330 (b) The corporation shall not have the power to prescribe a licensee's maximum or  
331 minimum payout or hold percentage.

332 (c) The corporation shall not have the power to issue or award and shall not issue or award  
333 any licenses provided for in this article prior to September 1, 2025.

334 50-27-124.

335 The corporation shall prescribe by rules and regulations:

336 (1) The reserves that must be kept by licensees to comply with subparagraph (c)(6)(A)  
337 of Code Section 50-27-130 to pay off bettors;

338 (2) Any insurance requirements for a licensee;

339 (3) Minimum requirements by which each licensee shall exercise effective control over  
340 its internal fiscal affairs, including, without limitation, requirements for:

341 (A) Safeguarding assets and revenues, including evidence of indebtedness;

342 (B) Maintaining reliable records relating to accounts, transactions, profits and losses,  
343 operations, and events; and

344 (C) Global risk management;

345 (4) Requirements for internal and independent audits of licensees;

346 (5) The manner in which periodic financial reports shall be submitted to the corporation  
347 from each licensee, including the financial information to be included in the reports;

348 (6) The type of information deemed to be confidential financial or proprietary  
349 information that is not subject to any reporting requirements under this article;

350 (7) Policies, procedures, and processes designed to mitigate the risk of cheating and  
351 money laundering; and

352 (8) Any post-employment restrictions necessary to maintain the integrity of sports  
353 betting in this state.

354

Part 2355 50-27-130.

356 (a) Any person offering, operating, or managing sports betting in this state shall be  
357 licensed by the corporation.

358 (b) The corporation shall issue licenses to qualified applicants able to meet the duties of  
359 a license holder under this article and that the corporation determines will best satisfy the  
360 following criteria:

361 (1) Expertise in the business of online sports betting;

362 (2) Integrity, sustainability, and safety of the online sports betting platform;

363 (3) Past relevant experience of the applicant;

364 (4) Advertising and promotional plans to maximize revenue;

365 (5) Demonstrated commitment to and plans for the promotion of responsible gaming;  
366 and

367 (6) Capacity to rapidly and efficiently bring bettors onto the applicant's platform.

368 (c) An applicant for a license or for the renewal of a license shall submit an application on  
369 a form in such manner and in accordance with such requirements as may be prescribed by  
370 the rules and regulations of the corporation. Such rules and regulations shall require, at a  
371 minimum, that the application include the following:

372 (1) If the applicant is an entity, identification of the applicant's principal owners, board  
373 of directors, officers, and supervisory employees;

374 (2) Information, documentation, and assurances as may be required by the corporation  
375 to establish by clear and convincing evidence the applicant's good character, honesty, and  
376 integrity, including, but not limited to, information pertaining to family, habits, character,  
377 reputation, criminal and arrest records, business activities, financial affairs, and business,  
378 professional, and personal associates, covering at least the ten-year period immediately  
379 preceding the filing of the application;

380 (3) Notice and a description of civil judgments obtained against the applicant pertaining  
381 to antitrust or security regulation laws of the federal government, this state, or any other  
382 state, jurisdiction, province, or country;

383 (4) To the extent available, letters of reference or the equivalent from law enforcement  
384 agencies having jurisdiction of the applicant's place of residence and principal place of  
385 business. Each such letter of reference shall indicate that the law enforcement agency  
386 does not have any pertinent information concerning the applicant or, if such law  
387 enforcement agency does have information pertaining to the applicant, shall provide such  
388 information, to the extent permitted by law;

389 (5) If the applicant has conducted sports betting operations in another jurisdiction, a  
390 letter of reference from the regulatory body that governs sports betting that specifies the  
391 standing of the applicant with such regulatory body; provided, however, that, if no such  
392 letter is received within 60 days of the request therefor, the applicant may submit a  
393 statement under oath that the applicant is or was, during the period such activities were  
394 conducted, in good standing with the regulatory body;

395 (6) Information, documentation, and assurances concerning financial background and  
396 resources as may be required to establish by clear and convincing evidence the financial  
397 stability, integrity, and responsibility of the applicant, including, but not limited to, bank  
398 references, business and personal income and disbursement schedules, tax returns and  
399 other reports filed with governmental agencies, and business and personal accounting and  
400 check records and ledgers. Each applicant shall, in writing, authorize the examination of  
401 all bank accounts and records as may be deemed necessary by the corporation. The  
402 corporation may consider any relevant evidence of financial stability. The applicant shall  
403 be presumed to be financially stable if the applicant establishes by clear and convincing  
404 evidence the ability to:

405 (A) Assure the financial integrity of sports betting operations by the maintenance of  
406 a reserve of not less than \$500,000.00 or the amount required to cover the outstanding

407 liabilities for wagers accepted by the licensee, whichever is greater. Outstanding  
408 liabilities for wagers shall mean the sum of the amount paid by patrons for wagers that  
409 have not yet been determined and the amount owed but unpaid by licensees to patrons  
410 for wagers whose results have been determined. The reserve may take the form of a  
411 bond, an irrevocable letter of credit, payment processor reserves and receivables, cash  
412 or cash equivalents segregated from operational funds, guaranty letter, or a combination  
413 thereof. Such reserve shall be adequate to pay winning wagers to bettors when due.  
414 An applicant is presumed to have met this standard if the applicant maintains, on a daily  
415 basis, a minimum reserve in an amount which is at least equal to the average daily  
416 minimum reserve, calculated on a monthly basis, for the corresponding month in the  
417 previous year;

418 (B) Meet ongoing operating expenses which are essential to the maintenance of  
419 continuous and stable sports betting operations; and

420 (C) Pay, as and when due, all state and federal taxes;

421 (7) Information, documentation, and assurances as may be required to establish by clear  
422 and convincing evidence that the applicant has sufficient business ability and sports  
423 betting experience to establish the likelihood of the creation and maintenance of  
424 successful, efficient sports betting operations in this state;

425 (8) Information, as required by the rules and regulations of the corporation, regarding the  
426 financial standing of the applicant, including, without limitation, each person or entity  
427 that has provided loans or financing to the applicant;

428 (9) A nonrefundable application fee and annual licensing fee as follows:

429 (A) Applicants for a Type 1 sports betting license shall pay a nonrefundable  
430 application fee in the amount of \$100,000.00 and an annual licensing fee in the amount  
431 of \$1.5 million; provided, however, that, for those licenses referred to in paragraph (3)  
432 of subsection (b) of Code Section 50-27-133, such annual licensing fee shall instead be  
433 \$750,000.00 and the application fee and annual licensing fee shall be paid by the online

434 sports betting services provider and not by the corporation, which shall not be required  
435 to pay any such fees;

436 (B) Applicants for an online sports betting services provider license shall pay a  
437 nonrefundable application fee in the amount of \$10,000.00 and an annual licensing fee  
438 of \$100,000.00; provided, however, that an online sports betting services provider that  
439 applies for and obtains one of the licenses referred to in paragraph (3) of subsection (b)  
440 of Code Section 50-27-133 shall only be required to pay the nonrefundable application  
441 fee and annual licensing fee applicable to the applicant's Type 1 sports betting license;  
442 and

443 (C) Applicants for a sports betting supplier license shall pay a nonrefundable  
444 application fee in the amount of \$2,000.00 and an annual licensing fee of \$20,000.00;  
445 and

446 (10) Any additional information, documents, or assurances required by rules and  
447 regulations of the corporation.

448 (d) The corporation shall review and approve or deny an application for a license not more  
449 than 90 days after receipt of an application.

450 50-27-131.

451 (a) A licensee may renew its license by submitting an application on a form in such  
452 manner and in accordance with such requirements as may be prescribed by rules and  
453 regulations of the corporation. A licensee shall submit the nonrefundable application fee  
454 prescribed under paragraph (9) of subsection (c) of Code Section 50-27-130 with its  
455 application for license renewal.

456 (b) For each application for licensure or renewal of a license approved under this Code  
457 section, the amount of the application fee shall be credited toward the licensee's annual  
458 licensing fee and the licensee shall remit the balance of the annual fee to the corporation  
459 upon approval of a license.

460 (c) Each licensee shall have a continuing duty to promptly inform the corporation of any  
461 change in status relating to any information that may disqualify the licensee from holding  
462 a license under Code Section 50-27-132.

463 (d) A professional sports governing body may enter into commercial agreements with  
464 licensees or other entities that provide for such professional sports governing body to share  
465 in the amounts wagered or revenue derived from wagers on sporting events of such  
466 professional sports governing body. A professional sports governing body shall not be  
467 required to obtain any approval or other form of authorization from the corporation to enter  
468 into such commercial agreements or to lawfully accept such amounts or revenues. The  
469 corporation shall not prescribe any terms or conditions that are required to be included into  
470 such commercial agreements.

471 (e) A person that holds a license or permit to engage in sports betting issued by another  
472 jurisdiction may submit a request to the corporation for a temporary license for such person  
473 to immediately commence engagement in this state in sports betting. Such request shall  
474 include the annual licensing fee required under paragraph (9) of subsection (c) of Code  
475 Section 50-27-130.

476 (f) Upon receiving a request for a temporary license, the chief executive officer may  
477 review the request at his or her discretion. If the chief executive officer reviews the request  
478 and determines that the person requesting the temporary license holds a license or permit  
479 issued by another jurisdiction to engage in sports betting and has paid the required  
480 licensing fee, the chief executive officer may authorize such person to engage in sports  
481 betting pursuant to this article under a temporary license for up to one year or until a final  
482 determination on such person's application is made, whichever is later.

483 (g) All licenses issued under this article shall be valid for a term of five years, unless  
484 suspended or revoked as provided under this article.

485 (h) The corporation may adopt rules and regulations prescribing the manner in which a  
486 license may be transferred and a fee for a license transfer.

487 (i) A licensee may maintain the bond, letter of credit, or cash reserve at any bank lawfully  
488 operating in this state and the licensee shall be the beneficiary of any interest accrued  
489 thereon.

490 50-27-132.

491 (a) The following persons shall not be eligible to apply for or obtain a license under this  
492 article:

493 (1) A member of the board of directors or employee of the corporation or an employee  
494 of a corporation vendor; provided, however, that a corporation vendor as an entity may  
495 be eligible to apply for or obtain a license;

496 (2) An employee of a professional sports team on which the applicant offers sports  
497 betting;

498 (3) A coach of or player for a collegiate, professional, or Olympic sports team or sport  
499 or an entity that has an affiliation or interest in such a sports team or sport;

500 (4) An individual who is a member or employee of any professional sports governing  
501 body or sporting events operator;

502 (5) An individual or entity with an owner, officer, or director who has been convicted of  
503 a crime of moral turpitude or similar degree as specified in rules and regulations  
504 promulgated by the corporation pursuant to this article;

505 (6) A person having the ability to directly affect the outcome of a sporting event upon  
506 which the applicant offers sports betting;

507 (7) A trustee or regent of a governing board of a public or private institution of higher  
508 education;

509 (8) An individual prohibited by the rules or regulations of a professional sports  
510 governing body or sporting events operator of a collegiate sports, team, league, or  
511 association from participating in sports betting;

512 (9) A student or an employee of a public or private institution of higher education who  
513 has access to material nonpublic information concerning a student athlete or a sports  
514 team; and

515 (10) Any other category of persons, established by the rules and regulations of the  
516 corporation, that, if licensed, would negatively affect the integrity of sports betting in this  
517 state.

518 (b) An individual listed in paragraphs (2) through (10) of subsection (a) of this Code  
519 section may hold an ownership interest in an applicant or licensee without disqualifying  
520 the applicant or licensee from obtaining or holding a license; provided, however, that such  
521 an ownership interest of 25 percent or more shall require approval from the corporation.  
522 In determining whether such an ownership interest shall be the basis of disqualification, the  
523 corporation shall consider whether such interest would negatively affect the integrity of  
524 sports betting in this state and any other factors the corporation shall deem relevant.

525 50-27-133.

526 (a) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this Code section, a Type 1 sports betting  
527 license authorizes a Type 1 eligible entity, or its designated online sports betting services  
528 provider, to offer online sports betting. If a Type 1 eligible entity designates an online  
529 sports betting services provider, the online sports betting services provider is considered  
530 the applicant for a Type 1 sports betting license and is considered the Type 1 sports betting  
531 licensee for all aspects of the regulatory control of the corporation and the operations under  
532 the Type 1 sports betting license. The corporation shall establish a procedure for a Type  
533 1 eligible entity to designate an online sports betting provider.

534 (b) The corporation shall issue not more than 18 Type 1 sports betting licenses to Type 1  
535 eligible entities or their designated online sports betting services providers in accordance  
536 with the following:

537 (1) Five Type 1 sports betting licenses shall be reserved for the Type 1 eligible entities  
538 defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (40) of Code Section 50-27-122 or their  
539 designated online sports betting services providers; provided, however, that more than  
540 one license may be issued to an owner of multiple professional sports teams;

541 (2) One Type 1 sports betting license shall be reserved for each of the Type 1 eligible  
542 entities defined in subparagraphs (B) through (E) of paragraph (40) of Code Section  
543 50-27-122 or their designated online sports betting services providers and two Type 1  
544 sports betting licenses shall be reserved for the Type 1 eligible entities defined in  
545 subparagraph (F) of paragraph (40) of Code Section 50-27-122 or their designated online  
546 sports betting services providers; and

547 (3) The corporation shall award contracts to manage the remaining Type 1 sports betting  
548 licenses to separate online sports betting services providers via a public procurement  
549 process;

550 provided, however, that a master sports betting license shall authorize the corporation  
551 through a designated online sports betting services provider to offer online sports betting.

552 (c) A Type 1 eligible entity may contract with no more than one online sports betting  
553 services provider to operate online sports betting on behalf of the Type 1 eligible entity.

554 (d) A Type 1 eligible entity shall provide written notice to the corporation of its intention,  
555 or its designated sports betting services provider's intention, to apply for a Type 1 sports  
556 betting license within 60 days of the effective date of this article. The failure of a Type 1  
557 eligible entity to provide such written notice shall result in the permanent disqualification  
558 and prohibition of such Type 1 eligible entity or its designated sports betting services  
559 provider from obtaining a Type 1 sports betting license.

560 (e) A Type 1 sports betting licensee shall not offer online sports betting until the  
561 corporation has issued a license to at least one online sports betting services provider that  
562 has been awarded a sports betting license via the public procurement process as determined  
563 by the corporation.

564 (f) All applicants for the 18 Type 1 sports betting licenses under subsection (b) of this  
565 Code section that have submitted an application within 30 days of the date in which the  
566 corporation began to accept applications for Type 1 sports betting licenses shall be given  
567 an equal opportunity to first commence offering, conducting, or operating online sports  
568 betting in this state on the same day, and in any event not later than January 31, 2026.

569 (g) A Type 1 eligible entity described in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (40)  
570 of Code Section 50-27-122 that becomes a Type 1 sports betting licensee or designates an  
571 online sports betting services provider shall establish and maintain procedures with respect  
572 to sporting events which the Type 1 eligible entity participates in or administers to ensure  
573 avoidance of conflicts of interest in the operation of sports betting in this state.

574 (h) Only a Type 1 sports betting licensee identified in subparagraph (F) of paragraph (40)  
575 of Code Section 50-27-122, or its designated online sports betting services provider, may  
576 offer online sports betting that also includes the sporting event of equestrian races on out  
577 of state tracks or other facilities and only at one facility that is owned and operated by the  
578 Type 1 sports betting licensee or its affiliate. Nothing in this article authorizes online  
579 sports betting on horse or other animal races occurring in this state. For purposes of this  
580 subsection, 'affiliate' means a person or entity that directly, or indirectly through one or  
581 more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by or is under common control with another  
582 person or entity.

583 50-27-134.

584 (a) An online sports betting services provider shall offer online sports betting only in  
585 accordance with the provisions of this article and the rules and regulations adopted by the  
586 corporation under this article.

587 (b) An online sports betting services provider shall obtain a license under this article  
588 before offering online sports betting pursuant to a contract with a Type 1 sports betting  
589 licensee or master sports betting licensee. An online sports betting services provider

590 license shall entitle the holder to contract with no more than one Type 1 sports betting  
591 licensee.

592 (c) If the holder of a Type 1 sports betting license is a Type 1 eligible entity and is a  
593 member of a league, association, or organization that prevents the holder from being  
594 subject to the regulatory control of the corporation or from otherwise operating under the  
595 license, such a Type 1 eligible entity may contractually appoint an online sports betting  
596 services provider for all aspects of corporation oversight and operations under the Type 1  
597 sports betting license.

598 (d) Institutional investors shall be exempt from any and all qualification and disclosure  
599 requirements under this article or required under the rules and regulations promulgated by  
600 the corporation pursuant to this article. Such exemption shall extend to the owners,  
601 directors, and officers of such institutional investors.

602 Part 3

603 50-27-150.

604 (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, there shall be imposed an annual  
605 privilege tax of 25 percent of the adjusted gross income derived from online sports betting  
606 in accordance with this Code section.

607 (b) The privilege tax described in subsection (a) of this Code section shall be paid by the  
608 online sports betting services provider; provided, however, that, if a Type 1 sports betting  
609 licensee does not contract with an online sports betting services provider, such privilege  
610 tax shall be paid by such Type 1 sports betting licensee as provided for in subsection (c)  
611 of this Code section. This subsection shall not apply to the master licensee.

612 (c) The privilege tax imposed under this Code section shall be paid monthly by the online  
613 sports betting services provider based on its monthly adjusted gross income for the  
614 immediately preceding calendar month. The privilege tax shall be paid to the corporation

615 in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the corporation. If the online  
616 sports betting services provider's adjusted gross income for a month is a negative number,  
617 such online sports betting services provider may carry over such negative amount to  
618 subsequent months.

619 (d) All moneys from privilege taxes and fees collected under this Code section shall be  
620 distributed and used as provided under Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII of the  
621 Constitution of Georgia.

622 (e) With the exemption of licensing fees imposed by paragraph (9) of subsection (c) of  
623 Code Section 50-27-130, the privilege tax imposed under this Code section is in lieu of all  
624 other state and local sales and income taxes and fees imposed on the operation of sports  
625 betting or on the proceeds from the operation of sports betting in this state.

626 50-27-151.

627 (a) Each licensee shall report to the corporation, no later than January 15 of each year:

628 (1) The total amount of wagers received from bettors for the immediately preceding  
629 calendar year;

630 (2) The adjusted gross income of the licensee for the immediately preceding calendar  
631 year; and

632 (3) Any additional information required by the rules and regulations of the corporation  
633 deemed in the public interest or necessary to maintain the integrity of sports betting in  
634 this state.

635 (b) A licensee shall promptly report to the corporation any information relating to:

636 (1) The name of any newly elected officer or director of the board of the licensed entity;  
637 and

638 (2) The acquisition by any person of 10 percent or more of any class of corporate stock.

639 (c) With respect to information reported under subsection (b) of this Code section, a  
640 licensee shall include with such report a statement of any conflict of interest that may exist  
641 as a result of such election or acquisition.

642 (d) Upon receiving a report under this Code section or subsection (b) of Code  
643 Section 50-27-191, the corporation may conduct a hearing in accordance with Code Section  
644 50-27-193 to determine whether the licensee remains in compliance with this article.

645 Part 4

646 50-27-160.

647 (a) No person shall knowingly:

648 (1) Allow a minor to place a wager;

649 (2) Offer, accept, or extend credit to a bettor in the form of a marker; provided, however,  
650 that promotions and promotional credits shall be permitted to be offered and extended to  
651 bettors;

652 (3) Target minors in advertising or promotions for sports betting;

653 (4) Offer or accept a wager on any event, outcome, or occurrence other than a sporting  
654 event, including, without limitation, a high school sporting event offered, sponsored, or  
655 played in connection with a public or private institution that offers education at the  
656 secondary level; or

657 (5) Accept a wager from an individual who is prohibited from placing a wager or bet  
658 under Code Section 50-27-162, if such person has notice or actual knowledge that such  
659 individual is prohibited from placing such a wager or bet.

660 (b) A person that knowingly violates this Code section:

661 (1) For a first offense, shall be indefinitely prohibited from placing a wager, be required  
662 to forfeit the proceeds of any illegal wager, and be guilty of a misdemeanor; and

663 (2) For a second or subsequent offense, shall be required to forfeit the proceeds of any  
664 illegal wager and be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.

665 50-27-161.

666 Except for those individuals ineligible to place bets under Code Section 50-27-162, an  
667 individual who is 21 years of age or older and who is physically located in this state may  
668 place a wager in the manner authorized under this article and the rules and regulations of  
669 the corporation.

670 50-27-162.

671 (a) The following individuals and categories of individuals shall not, directly or indirectly,  
672 place a wager on sporting events or online sports betting platforms in this state:

673 (1) A member, officer, or employee of the corporation shall not place a wager on any  
674 sporting event or platform;

675 (2) A corporation vendor employee shall not place a wager on a sporting event using  
676 their employer's platform;

677 (3) A licensee or principal owner, partner, member of the board of directors, officer, or  
678 supervisory employee of a licensee shall not place a wager on the licensee's platform;

679 (4) A person that provides goods or services to a licensee or any principal owner, partner,  
680 member of the board of directors, officer, or supervisory employee of a person that  
681 provides such goods or services shall not place a wager on the licensee's platform;

682 (5) A contractor, subcontractor, or consultant or any officer or employee of a contractor,  
683 subcontractor, or consultant of a licensee shall not place a wager on the licensee's  
684 platform, if such individual is directly involved in the licensee's operation of sports  
685 betting or the processing of sports betting claims or payments through the licensee's  
686 platform;

687 (6) An individual subject to a contract with the corporation shall not place a wager on  
688 any platform, if the contract contains a provision prohibiting the individual from  
689 participating in sports betting;

690 (7) An individual with access to material nonpublic information that is known  
691 exclusively by an individual who is prohibited from placing a wager in this state under  
692 this Code section shall not use any such information to place a wager on any sporting  
693 event or platform;

694 (8) An amateur or Olympic athlete shall not place a wager on any sporting event in  
695 which the athlete participates;

696 (9) A professional athlete shall not place a wager on any sporting event overseen by such  
697 athlete's professional sports governing body or sporting events operator;

698 (10) An owner or employee of a team, player, umpire, or sports union personnel, or  
699 employee, referee, coach, or official of a professional sports governing body or sporting  
700 events operator shall not place a wager on any sporting event, if the wager is based on a  
701 sporting event overseen by the individual's professional sports governing body or sporting  
702 events operator;

703 (11) An individual having the ability to directly affect the outcome of a sporting event  
704 shall not place a wager on such sporting event;

705 (12) A trustee or regent of a governing board of a public or private institution of higher  
706 education shall not place a wager on a collegiate sporting event;

707 (13) An individual prohibited by the rules or regulations of a professional sports  
708 governing body or sporting events operator of a collegiate sports, team, league, or  
709 association from participating in sports betting shall not place a wager on any sporting  
710 event to which such prohibition applies; and

711 (14) A student or an employee of a public or private institution of higher education who  
712 has access to material nonpublic information concerning a student athlete or a sports team

713 shall be prohibited from placing a wager on a collegiate sporting event if such  
714 information is relevant to the outcome of such event.

715 (b) The corporation may prescribe by rules and regulations additional individuals and  
716 categories of individuals who are prohibited from placing a wager on specified sporting  
717 events or online sports betting platforms in this state.

718 (c) The corporation shall prescribe by rules and regulations any measures necessary to  
719 ensure individuals who are prohibited from placing a wager on specified sporting events  
720 or online sports betting platforms in this state shall not be permitted to collude with  
721 individuals not specifically enumerated in subsection (a) of this Code section to directly  
722 affect the outcome of a sporting event.

723 (d) Any individual who places a wager in violation of this Code section:

724 (1) For a first offense, shall be:

725 (A) Indefinitely prohibited from placing a wager;

726 (B) Required to forfeit the proceeds of any illegal wager;

727 (C) Guilty of a misdemeanor; and

728 (D) Fined not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$1,000.00;

729 (2) For a second offense, shall be:

730 (A) Required to forfeit the proceeds of any illegal wager;

731 (B) Guilty of a misdemeanor; and

732 (C) Fined not less than \$5,000.00 or imprisoned for not less than one month nor more  
733 than five months, or both; and

734 (3) For a third or subsequent offense, shall be:

735 (A) Required to forfeit the proceeds of any illegal wager;

736 (B) Guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature; and

737 (C) Fined not less than \$7,500.00 or imprisoned for not less than three months, or both.

738 50-27-163.

739 (a) The corporation shall by rules and regulations prohibit betting on injuries, penalties,  
740 the outcome of player discipline rulings or replay reviews, and any other type or form of  
741 betting under this article that is contrary to public policy or unfair to bettors.

742 (b)(1) A professional sports governing body or sporting events operator may submit to  
743 the corporation in writing, by providing notice in such form and manner as the  
744 corporation may require, a request to restrict, limit, or prohibit a certain type, form, or  
745 category of sports betting with respect to its sporting events, if the professional sports  
746 governing body or sporting events operator believes that such type, form, or category of  
747 sports betting with respect to its sporting events may undermine the integrity or perceived  
748 integrity of such professional sports governing body or sporting events operator or its  
749 sporting events. The corporation shall request comments from sports betting licensees  
750 and sports betting services provider licensees on all such requests it receives.

751 (2) After giving due consideration to all comments received, the corporation shall, upon  
752 demonstration of good cause from the requestor that such type, form, or category of  
753 sports betting is likely to undermine the integrity or perceived integrity of such  
754 professional sports governing body or sporting events operator or its sporting events,  
755 grant the request. The corporation shall respond to a request concerning a particular  
756 sporting event before the start of the event, or if it is not feasible to respond before such  
757 time, no later than seven days after the request is made. If the corporation determines that  
758 the requestor is more likely than not to prevail in successfully demonstrating good cause  
759 for its request, the corporation may provisionally grant the request of the professional  
760 sports governing body or sporting events operator until the corporation makes a final  
761 determination as to whether the requestor has demonstrated good cause. Absent such a  
762 provisional grant by the corporation, sports betting licensees may continue to offer sports  
763 betting on sporting events that are the subject of such a request during the pendency of  
764 the corporation's consideration of the applicable request.

765

Part 5766 50-27-170.

767 (a) Prior to placing a wager with a licensee via online sports betting, a bettor shall register  
768 and establish a player account with the licensee remotely and attest that the bettor meets  
769 the requirements to place a wager with a licensee in this state. Prior to verification of a  
770 bettor's identity in accordance with this Code section, a licensee shall not allow the bettor  
771 to engage in sports betting, make a deposit, or process a withdrawal via online sports  
772 betting. A licensee shall implement commercially and technologically reasonable  
773 procedures to prevent access to sports betting by minors on its online sports betting  
774 platforms. A licensee may use information obtained from third parties to verify that an  
775 individual is authorized to open an account, place wagers, and make deposits and  
776 withdrawals.

777 (b) Each online sports betting services provider licensee shall adopt a registration policy  
778 to ensure that all bettors utilizing online sports betting are authorized to place a wager with  
779 a licensee within this state. Such policy shall include, without limitation, commercially  
780 reasonable mechanisms to:

781 (1) Verify the name and age of the registrant;782 (2) Verify that the registrant is not knowingly prohibited from placing a wager under  
783 Code Section 50-27-162; and784 (3) Obtain the following information from the registrant:785 (A) Legal name;786 (B) Date of birth;787 (C) Physical address other than a post office box;788 (D) Phone number;789 (E) A unique username; and790 (F) An active email account.

791 (c) Each online sports betting services provider licensee may in its discretion require a  
792 bettor to provide the licensee with a signed and notarized document attesting that the bettor  
793 is qualified to engage in sports betting under this article as part of the registration policy  
794 of the licensee.

795 (d) A bettor shall not register more than one account with a licensee, and each licensee  
796 shall use commercially and technologically reasonable means to ensure that each bettor is  
797 limited to one account.

798 (e) Each licensee, in addition to complying with state and federal law pertaining to the  
799 protection of the private, personal information of registered bettors, shall use all other  
800 commercially and technologically reasonable means to protect such information consistent  
801 with industry standards.

802 (f) When a bettor's account is created, a bettor may fund the account through:

803 (1) Electronic bank transfer of funds, including such transfers through third parties;

804 (2) Debit cards;

805 (3) Online and mobile payment systems that support online money transfers; and

806 (4) Any other method approved by the rules and regulations of the corporation.

807 (g)(1) Licensees shall not allow bets to be placed until first verifying the identity of the  
808 bettor pursuant to this Code section and by the rules promulgated by the corporation.

809 Further, and pursuant to the rules promulgated by the corporation, licensees shall  
810 establish safeguards, including, but not limited to, access notifications and similar  
811 security safeguards, to protect each bettor's account.

812 (2) If a licensee determines that the information provided by a bettor to make a deposit  
813 or process a withdrawal is inaccurate or incapable of verification or violates the policies  
814 and procedures of the licensee, the licensee shall, within ten days, require the submission  
815 of additional information that can be used to verify the identity of such bettor.

816 (3) If such information is not provided or does not result in verification of the bettor's  
817 identity, the licensee shall:

- 818 (A) Immediately suspend the bettor's account and shall not allow the bettor to place  
819 wagers;
- 820 (B) Retain any winnings attributable to the bettor;
- 821 (C) Refund the balance of deposits made to the account to the source of such deposit  
822 or by issuance of a check; and
- 823 (D) Suspend the account.
- 824 (h) A licensee shall utilize geofencing technology to ensure that online sports betting is  
825 available only to bettors who are physically located in this state. Servers, including the use  
826 of backup servers, may be located outside of this state, consistent with federal law. To the  
827 extent required by federal law, a licensee shall maintain in this state the servers it uses to  
828 accept wagers on a sporting event placed by bettors located in this state.
- 829 (i) Each licensee shall clearly and conspicuously display on its public website a statement  
830 indicating that it is illegal for a person under 21 years of age to engage in sports betting in  
831 this state.
- 832 (j) The corporation shall promulgate rules and regulations for purposes of regulating sports  
833 betting via online sports betting.
- 834 50-27-171.
- 835 (a) Licensees shall allow bettors to limit their betting activity with the licensee by, at a  
836 minimum, giving bettors the opportunity to place limits on the amounts deposited, the  
837 amounts wagered, and the amount of time spent wagering. Licensees shall take reasonable  
838 steps to prevent bettors from overriding their self-imposed responsible gambling limits.  
839 At the request of a bettor, a licensee may share the requested limitations with the  
840 corporation for the sole purpose of disseminating the request to other licensees.
- 841 (b) The corporation shall promulgate rules and regulations that require a licensee to  
842 implement responsible sports betting programs that include comprehensive training on

843 responding to circumstances in which individuals present signs of problem gambling or a  
844 betting or gambling disorder.

845 (c) The corporation shall work with national and local organizations to provide services  
846 for individuals with problem gambling or a betting or gambling disorder and to establish  
847 prevention initiatives to reduce the number of individuals with problem gambling or a  
848 betting or gambling disorder, including, but not limited to, utilizing currently established  
849 programs for problem gambling or betting or gambling disorders.

850 (d) All sports betting advertisements shall prominently display messaging designed to  
851 prevent problem gambling and provide information about how to access resources related  
852 to problem gambling, including the National Council on Problem Gambling's helpline or  
853 other similar toll-free helpline.

854 (e) The corporation shall annually generate a report outlining activities with respect to  
855 problem gambling and betting or gambling disorders, including, but not limited to,  
856 descriptions of programs, grants, and other resources made available; the number of  
857 individuals seeking assistance; the number of individuals who reported completing  
858 programs and therapies; and the rate of recidivism, if known to the corporation. The  
859 corporation shall file the annual report with the Governor, the President of the Senate, and  
860 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and shall publish such report on its public  
861 website no later than January 30 of each year.

862 50-27-172.

863 (a) Each licensee shall adopt and adhere to a written, comprehensive policy outlining its  
864 rules governing the acceptance of wagers and payouts. Such policy and rules must be  
865 approved by the corporation prior to the acceptance of a wager by a licensee. Such policy  
866 and rules shall be readily available to a bettor on the licensee's public website.

867 (b) The corporation shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding:

- 868 (1) The manner in which a licensee accepts wagers from and issues payouts to bettors,  
869 including payouts in excess of \$10,000.00; and  
870 (2) Requirements for reporting suspicious wagers.

871 Part 6

872 50-27-180.

873 (a) Licensees shall not be required to use official league data or official event data for  
874 determining the results of:

875 (1) Tier 1 sports wagers on events of any organization, whether headquartered in the  
876 United States or elsewhere; or

877 (2) Tier 2 sports wagers on events of organizations that are not headquartered in the  
878 United States.

879 (b)(1) A professional sports governing body or sporting events operator headquartered  
880 in the United States may notify the corporation that it desires licensees to use official  
881 league data or official event data for determining the results of tier 2 sports wagers on its  
882 sporting events. A notification under this subsection shall be made in the form and  
883 manner as the corporation shall require. The corporation shall notify each licensee within  
884 five days after receipt of such notification from a professional sports governing body or  
885 sporting events operator. If a professional sports governing body or sporting events  
886 operator does not notify the corporation of its desire to supply official league data or  
887 official event data, licensees are not required to use official league data or official event  
888 data for determining the results of any tier 2 wagers on sporting events of that  
889 professional sports governing body or sporting events operator.

890 (2) Within 60 days after the corporation notifies each licensee as provided under  
891 paragraph (1) of this subsection, or within a longer period as may be agreed between such  
892 professional sports governing body or sporting events operator and the applicable

893 licensee, each such licensee shall be required to use only official league data or official  
894 event data, as applicable, to determine the results of tier 2 sports wagers on sporting  
895 events sanctioned by such professional sports governing body or sporting events operator,  
896 except when:

897 (A) The professional sports governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee  
898 thereof, is unable to provide a feed of official league data or official event data to  
899 determine the results of a particular type of tier 2 sports wager, in which case licensees  
900 may use any data source for determining the results of the applicable tier 2 sports wager  
901 until the data feed becomes available on commercially reasonable terms and conditions;

902 or

903 (B) A licensee is able to demonstrate to the corporation that the professional sports  
904 governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, will not provide a  
905 feed of official league data or official event data to the licensee on commercially  
906 reasonable terms and conditions.

907 (3) The following is a nonexclusive list of factors the corporation may consider in  
908 evaluating whether official league data or official event data is being offered on  
909 commercially reasonable terms and conditions for purposes of subparagraphs (A) and (B)  
910 of paragraph (2) of this subsection:

911 (A) The availability of tier 2 official league data of a professional sports governing  
912 body or tier 2 official event data of a sporting events operator to a licensee from more  
913 than one authorized source;

914 (B) Market information, including, without limitation, price and other terms and  
915 conditions, regarding the purchase of comparable data by licensees for the purpose of  
916 settling sports wagers, for use in this state or other jurisdictions;

917 (C) The nature and quantity of the official league data or official event data, including,  
918 without limitation, its speed, accuracy, reliability, and overall quality as compared to  
919 comparable nonofficial data;

920 (D) The quality and complexity of the process used to collect and distribute the official  
921 league data or official event data as compared to comparable nonofficial data;

922 (E) The extent to which professional sports governing bodies or sporting events  
923 operators, or designees thereof, have made available to licensees the data used to settle  
924 the results of tier 2 sports wagers and any terms and conditions relating to the use of  
925 such data; and

926 (F) The extent to which licensees have purchased the same or similar official league  
927 data or official event data on the same or similar terms, particularly in jurisdictions  
928 where such purchase was not required by law or was required by law but only if offered  
929 on commercially reasonable terms.

930 (4) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Code section, including,  
931 without limitation, paragraph (2) of this subsection, while the corporation is evaluating  
932 whether a professional sports governing body or a sporting events operator, or the  
933 designee thereof, will provide a feed of official league data or official event data on  
934 commercially reasonable terms and conditions pursuant to paragraph (3) of this  
935 subsection, licensees are not required to use official league data or official event data for  
936 determining the results of tier 2 sports wagers.

937 (5) The corporation shall make a determination under paragraph (3) of this subsection  
938 within 60 days after the licensee notifies the corporation that it desires to demonstrate that  
939 the professional sports governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof,  
940 will not provide a feed of official league data or official event data to such licensee on  
941 commercially reasonable terms and conditions.

942 Part 7943 50-27-190.

944 Members of the corporation or designated employees thereof may, during normal business  
945 hours, enter the premises of any facility of a licensee, or a third party utilized by the  
946 licensee to operate and conduct business in accordance with this article, for the purpose of  
947 inspecting books and records kept as required by this article to ensure that the licensee is  
948 in compliance with this article or to make any other inspection of the premises necessary  
949 to protect the public interests of this state and its consumers.

950 50-27-191.

951 (a) The corporation, licensees, corporation vendors, and vendors shall use commercially  
952 reasonable efforts to cooperate with investigations conducted by any professional sports  
953 governing body, any sporting events operator, and law enforcement agencies, including,  
954 but not limited to, using commercially reasonable efforts to provide or facilitate the  
955 provision of betting information.

956 (b) Licensees shall promptly report to the corporation any information relating to:

957 (1) Abnormal betting activity or patterns that may indicate a concern with the integrity  
958 of a sporting event; and

959 (2) Conduct that corrupts the betting outcome of a sporting event for purposes of  
960 financial gain, including match fixing.

961 (c) Licensees shall, as soon as is practicable, report any information relating to conduct  
962 described in subsection (b) of this Code section to the professional sports governing body  
963 or sporting events operator.

964 (d) Licensees shall use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain, in real time and at the  
965 account level, anonymized information regarding a bettor; the amount and type of bet; the  
966 time the bet was placed; the location of the bet, including the internet protocol address if

967 applicable; the outcome of the bet; and records of abnormal betting activity for three years  
968 after the sporting event occurs. The corporation may request such information in the form  
969 and manner required by the rules and regulations of the corporation. As used in this  
970 subsection, the term 'real time' means on a commercially reasonable periodic interval.

971 (e) All records, documents, and information received by the corporation pursuant to this  
972 Code section shall be considered investigative records of a law enforcement agency, shall  
973 not be subject to Article 4 of Chapter 18 of this title, and shall not be released under any  
974 condition without the permission of the person providing such records, documents, or  
975 information.

976 (f) Nothing in this Code section shall require a sports betting licensee to provide any  
977 information that is prohibited by federal, state, or local laws or rules and regulations,  
978 including, without limitation, laws and rules and regulations relating to privacy and  
979 personally identifiable information.

980 (g) If a professional sports governing body or sporting events operator has notified the  
981 corporation that access to the information described in subsection (d) of this Code section  
982 for wagers placed on its sporting events is necessary to monitor the integrity of its sporting  
983 events and represents to the corporation that it specifically uses such data for the purpose  
984 of monitoring the integrity of sporting events of such professional sports governing body  
985 or sporting events operator, then licensees shall share, in a commercially reasonable  
986 frequency, form, and manner, with the professional sports governing body or sporting  
987 events operator, or a designee thereof, the same information the licensee is required to  
988 maintain under subsection (d) of this Code section with respect to sports wagers on such  
989 a body's or operator's sporting events. A professional sports governing body or sporting  
990 events operator, or a designee thereof, shall use information received under this subsection  
991 for integrity-monitoring purposes only and shall not use such information for commercial  
992 or any other purposes. Nothing in this subsection shall require a licensee to provide any  
993 information that is prohibited by federal, state, or local laws, rules, or regulations,

994 including, but not limited to, laws, rules, or regulations relating to privacy and personally  
995 identifiable information.

996 50-27-192.

997 The corporation shall assist in any investigations by law enforcement to determine whether:

998 (1) A licensee is accepting wagers from minors or other persons ineligible to place  
999 wagers under Code Section 50-27-162; and

1000 (2) An individual is unlawfully accepting wagers from another individual without a  
1001 license or at a location in violation of this article.

1002 50-27-193.

1003 (a) The corporation may investigate and conduct a hearing with respect to a licensee upon  
1004 information and belief that the licensee has violated the provisions of this article or upon  
1005 the receipt of a credible complaint from any person that a licensee has violated the  
1006 provisions of this article. The corporation shall conduct investigations and hearings in  
1007 accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the corporation.

1008 (b) If the corporation determines that a licensee has violated any provision of this article  
1009 or any rules and regulations of the corporation, the corporation may suspend, revoke, or  
1010 refuse to renew a license; impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$25,000.00 per  
1011 violation; or both.

1012 (c) The corporation shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing a schedule of  
1013 administrative fines that may be assessed in accordance with subsection (b) of this Code  
1014 section for each violation of this article; provided, however, if the corporation finds that:

1015 (1) A licensee is accepting wagers from minors or other persons ineligible to place  
1016 wagers in this state, the corporation shall impose a fine against the licensee as follows:

1017 (A) For a first offense, \$1,000.00;

1018 (B) For a second offense, \$2,000.00; and

1019 (C) For a third or subsequent offense, \$5,000.00; or  
1020 (2) An individual is unlawfully accepting wagers from another individual without a  
1021 license, the corporation shall impose a fine against the individual as follows:  
1022 (A) For a first offense, \$10,000.00;  
1023 (B) For a second offense, \$15,000.00; and  
1024 (C) For a third or subsequent offense, \$25,000.00.  
1025 (d) The corporation may refer conduct that it reasonably believes is a violation of Article 2  
1026 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

1027 50-27-194.

1028 (a) Any person that violates any provision of this article shall be liable for a civil penalty  
1029 of not more than \$5,000.00 per violation, not to exceed \$50,000.00 for violations arising  
1030 out of the same transaction or occurrence, which shall accrue to the corporation and may  
1031 be recovered in a civil action brought by or on behalf of the corporation.

1032 (b) The corporation may seek and obtain an injunction in a court of competent jurisdiction  
1033 for purposes of enforcing this article.

1034 (c) Costs shall not be taxed against the corporation or this state for actions brought under  
1035 this article.

1036 50-27-195.

1037 (a) Fines assessed under this article shall be accounted for separately for use by the  
1038 corporation in a manner consistent with the rules and regulations of the corporation.

1039 (b) The corporation may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the  
1040 production of relevant books, accounts, records, and documents for purposes of carrying  
1041 out its duties under this article.

1042 50-27-196.

1043 (a) A licensee or other individual aggrieved by a final decision or action of the corporation  
1044 may appeal such decision or action to the Superior Court of Fulton County.

1045 (b) The Superior Court of Fulton County shall hear appeals from decisions or actions of  
1046 the corporation and, based upon the record of the proceedings before the corporation, may  
1047 reverse the decision or action of the corporation only if the appellant proves the decision  
1048 or action to be:

1049 (1) Clearly erroneous;

1050 (2) Arbitrary and capricious;

1051 (3) Procured by fraud;

1052 (4) A result of substantial misconduct by the corporation; or

1053 (5) Contrary to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of Georgia, or this article.

1054 (c) The Superior Court of Fulton County may remand an appeal to the corporation to  
1055 conduct further hearings.

1056 50-27-197.

1057 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, to knowingly receive, supply,  
1058 broadcast, display, or otherwise transmit material nonpublic information for the purpose  
1059 of betting on a sporting event or influencing another individual's or entity's wager on a  
1060 sporting event.

1061 (b) This Code section shall not apply to the dissemination of public information as news,  
1062 entertainment, or advertising.

1063 (c) Any person in violation of this Code section shall be indefinitely prohibited from  
1064 placing a wager, be required to forfeit the proceeds of any illegal wager, and be guilty of  
1065 a misdemeanor."

1066

**PART III**

1067

**SECTION 3-1.**

1068 Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
1069 relating to gambling, is amended by revising paragraphs (1) and (2) of Code Section  
1070 16-12-20, relating to definitions, as follows:

1071 "(1) 'Bet' means an agreement that, dependent upon chance even though accompanied  
1072 by some skill, one stands to win or lose something of value. A bet does not include:

1073 (A) Contracts of indemnity or guaranty or life, health, property, or accident insurance;

1074 **or**

1075 (B) An offer of a prize, award, or compensation to the actual contestants in any bona  
1076 fide contest for the determination of skill, speed, strength, or endurance or to the owners  
1077 of animals, vehicles, watercraft, or aircraft entered in such contest; or

1078 (C) Money paid in compliance with Chapter 27 of Title 50.

1079 (2) 'Gambling device' means:

1080 (A) Any contrivance which for a consideration affords the player an opportunity to  
1081 obtain money or other thing of value, the award of which is determined by chance even  
1082 though accompanied by some skill, whether or not the prize is automatically paid by  
1083 contrivance;

1084 (B) Any slot machine or any simulation or variation thereof;

1085 (C) Any matchup or lineup game machine or device, operated for any consideration,  
1086 in which two or more numerals, symbols, letters, or icons align in a winning  
1087 combination on one or more lines vertically, horizontally, diagonally, or otherwise,  
1088 without assistance by the player. Use of skill stops shall not be considered assistance  
1089 by the player; or

1090 (D) Any video game machine or device, operated for any consideration, for the play  
1091 of poker, blackjack, any other card game, or keno or any simulation or variation of any

1092 of the foregoing, including, but not limited to, any game in which numerals, numbers,  
1093 or any pictures, representations, or symbols are used as an equivalent or substitute for  
1094 cards in the conduct of such game.

1095 Any item described in ~~subparagraph (B), (C), or (D)~~ of this paragraph that is not  
1096 authorized by Chapter 27 of Title 50, or exempted by this part, shall be a prohibited  
1097 gambling device subject to and prohibited by this part, notwithstanding any inference to  
1098 the contrary in any other law of this state."

1099 **SECTION 3-2.**

1100 Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 16-12-27, relating to advertisement  
1101 or solicitation for participation in lotteries, as follows:

1102 "16-12-27.

1103 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or other entity to  
1104 sell, distribute, televise, broadcast, or disseminate any advertisement, television or radio  
1105 commercial, or any book, magazine, periodical, newspaper, or other written or printed  
1106 matter containing an advertisement or solicitation for participation in any lottery declared  
1107 to be unlawful by the laws of this state unless such advertisement, commercial, or  
1108 solicitation contains or includes the words 'void in Georgia' printed or spoken so as to be  
1109 clearly legible or audible to persons viewing or hearing such advertisement, commercial,  
1110 or solicitation.

1111 (b) Any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or other entity violating subsection (a) of  
1112 this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

1113 (c) This Code section shall not apply to any advertisement or solicitation for participation  
1114 in a lottery game of online sports betting by any person licensed under Article 4 of Chapter  
1115 27 of Title 50 that concerns such licensee's lawful activities."

1116 **SECTION 3-3.**

1117 Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 16-12-28, relating to communicating  
1118 gambling information, as follows:

1119 "16-12-28.

1120 (a) A person who knowingly communicates information as to bets, betting odds, or  
1121 changes in betting odds or who knowingly installs or maintains equipment for the  
1122 transmission or receipt of such information with the intent to further gambling commits the  
1123 offense of communicating gambling information.

1124 (b) A person who commits the offense of communicating gambling information, upon  
1125 conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than  
1126 five years or by a fine not to exceed \$5,000.00, or both.

1127 (c) This Code section shall not apply to the activities authorized under Article 4 of Chapter  
1128 27 of Title 50."

1129 **PART IV**1130 **SECTION 4-1.**

1131 Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is  
1132 amended by revising paragraph (55) of Code Section 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from  
1133 state sales and use tax, as follows:

1134 "(55) The sale of lottery tickets authorized by Chapter 27 of Title 50 or wagers  
1135 authorized by Article 4 of Chapter 27 of Title 50;"

1136

**PART V**

1137

**SECTION 5-1.**

1138 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
1139 without such approval.

1140

**SECTION 5-2.**

1141 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.