

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1826

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES JONES (63) (Sponsor) AND RICHARD (Co-sponsor).

4731L.01I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 313.812, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the imposition of penalties, suspension or revocation of excursion gambling boat licenses, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 313.812, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 313.812, to read as follows:

313.812. 1. The commission may issue licenses pursuant to subsection 1 of section 313.807 when it is satisfied that the applicant has complied with all rules and regulations, including an update of all information provided to the commission in the licensee's initial application. The commission shall decide the number, location and type of excursion gambling boat in a city or county under subsection 10 of this section. The license shall set forth the name of the licensee, the type of license granted, the place where the excursion gambling boat will operate and dock, including the docking of an excursion gambling boat which is continuously docked, and other information the commission deems appropriate. The commission shall have the ultimate responsibility of deciding the number, location, and type of excursion gambling boats licensed in a city or county; however, any city or county which has complied with the provisions of subsection 10 of this section shall submit to the commission a plan outlining the following:

- (1) The recommended number of licensed excursion gambling boats operating in such city or county;
- (2) The recommended licensee or licensees operating in such city or county;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 (3) The community's economic development or impact and affirmative action plan
17 concerning minorities' and women's ownership, contracting and employment for the waterfront
18 development;

19 (4) The city or county proposed sharing of revenue with any other municipality;

20 (5) Any other information such city or county deems necessary; and

21 (6) Any other information the commission may determine is necessary. The commission
22 shall provide for due dates for receiving such plan from the city or county.

23 2. A license to operate an excursion gambling boat shall only be granted to an applicant
24 upon the express conditions that:

25 (1) The applicant shall not, by a lease, contract, understanding, or arrangement of any
26 kind, grant, assign, or turn over to a person the operation of an excursion gambling boat licensed
27 under this section or of the system of wagering described in section 313.817. This section does
28 not prohibit a management contract with a person licensed by the commission; and

29 (2) The applicant shall not in any manner permit a person other than the licensee and the
30 management licensee to have a share, percentage, or proportion of the money received for
31 admissions to the excursion gambling boat.

32 3. The commission shall require, as a condition of granting a license, that an applicant
33 operate an excursion gambling boat which, as nearly as practicable, resembles or is a part of
34 Missouri's or the home dock city's or county's riverboat history.

35 4. The commission shall encourage through its rules and regulations the use of Missouri
36 resources, goods and services in the operation of any excursion gambling boat.

37 5. The excursion gambling boat shall provide for nonpaying areas, food service and a
38 Missouri theme gift shop. The amount of space used for gaming shall be determined in
39 accordance with all rules and regulations of the commission and the United States Coast Guard
40 safety regulations.

41 6. A license to operate gambling games or to operate an excursion gambling boat shall
42 not be granted unless the applicant has, through clear and convincing evidence, demonstrated
43 financial responsibility sufficient to meet adequately the requirements of the proposed enterprise.

44 7. Each applicant shall establish by clear and convincing evidence its fitness to be
45 licensed. Without limitation, the commission may deny a license based solely on the fact that
46 there is evidence that any of the following apply:

47 (1) The applicant has been suspended from operating an excursion gambling boat or a
48 game of chance or gambling operation in another jurisdiction by a board or commission of that
49 jurisdiction;

50 (2) The applicant is not the true owner of the enterprise proposed;

51 (3) The applicant is not the sole owner, and other persons have ownership in the
52 enterprise, which fact has not been disclosed;

53 (4) The applicant is a corporation that is not publicly traded and ten percent or more of
54 the stock of the corporation is subject to a contract or option to purchase at any time during the
55 period for which the license is to be issued unless the contract or option was disclosed to the
56 commission and the commission approved the sale or transfer during the period of the license;

57 (5) The applicant has knowingly made a false statement of a material fact to the
58 commission; or

59 (6) The applicant has failed to meet a valid, bona fide monetary obligation in connection
60 with an excursion gambling boat.

61 8. A license shall not be granted if the applicant has not established his good reputе and
62 moral character or if the applicant has pled guilty to, or has been convicted of, a felony. No
63 licensee shall employ or contract with any person who has pled guilty to, or has been convicted
64 of, a felony to perform any duties directly connected with the licensee's privileges under a license
65 granted pursuant to this section, except that employees performing nonpaying related
66 occupations as determined by the commission shall be exempt from the requirements of this
67 subsection.

68 9. A licensee shall not lend to any person money or any other thing of value for the
69 purpose of permitting that person to wager on any gambling game authorized by law. This does
70 not prohibit credit card or debit card transactions or cashing of checks. Any check cashed must
71 be deposited within twenty-four hours. The commission may require licensees to verify a
72 sufficient account balance exists before cashing any check. Any licensee who violates the
73 provisions of this subsection shall be subject to an administrative penalty of five thousand dollars
74 for each violation. Such administrative penalties shall be assessed and collected by the
75 commission.

76 10. Gambling excursions including the operation of gambling games on an excursion
77 gambling boat which is not continuously docked shall be allowed only on the Mississippi River
78 and the Missouri River. No license to conduct gambling games on an excursion gambling boat
79 in a city or county shall be issued unless and until the qualified voters of the city or county
80 approve such activities pursuant to this subsection. The question shall be submitted to the
81 qualified voters of the city or county at a general, primary or special election upon the motion
82 of the governing body of the city or county or upon the petition of fifteen percent of the qualified
83 voters of the city or county determined on the basis of the number of votes cast for governor in
84 the city or county at the last election held prior to the filing of the petition. The question shall
85 be submitted in substantially the following form:

86 Shall the City (County) of allow the licensing of excursion gambling boats
87 or floating facilities as now or hereafter provided by Missouri gaming law in the city (county)?

88 ☐ YES ☐ NO

89

90 If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are in favor
91 of the question, then the commission may license excursion gambling boats in that city or county
92 and such boats may operate on the Mississippi River and the Missouri River. If a majority of the
93 votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are opposed to the question, then
94 the commission shall not license such excursion gambling boats in such city or county unless and
95 until the question is again submitted to and approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the
96 city or county at a later election. Excursion gambling boats may only dock in a city or
97 unincorporated area of a county which approves licensing of such excursion gambling boats
98 pursuant to this subsection, but gambling operations may be conducted at any point on the
99 Mississippi River or the Missouri River during an excursion. Those cities and counties which
100 have approved by election pursuant to this subsection, except those cities or counties which have
101 subsequently rejected by election, the licensing of any type of excursion gambling boats in the
102 city or county prior to April 6, 1994, are exempt from any local election requirement of this
103 section as such previous election shall have the same effect as if held after May 20, 1994.

104 11. If a docking fee is charged by a city or a county, a licensee operating an excursion
105 gambling boat shall pay the docking fee prior to the start of the excursion season.

106 12. Any licensee shall not be delinquent in the payment of property taxes or other taxes
107 or fees or in the payment of any other contractual obligation or debt due or owed to the state or
108 a political subdivision of the state.

109 13. An excursion gambling boat licensed by the state shall meet all of the requirements
110 of chapter 306, RSMo, and is subject to an inspection of its sanitary facilities to protect the
111 environment and water quality by the commission or its designee before a license to operate an
112 excursion gambling boat is issued by the commission. Licensed excursion gambling boats shall
113 also be subject to such inspections during the period of the license as may be deemed necessary
114 by the commission. The cost of such inspections shall be paid by the licensee.

115 14. A holder of any license shall be subject to imposition of penalties, suspension or
116 revocation of such license, or if the person is an applicant for licensure, the denial of the
117 application, for any act or failure to act by himself or his agents or employees, that is injurious
118 to the public health, safety, morals, good order and general welfare of the people of the state of
119 Missouri, or that would discredit or tend to discredit the Missouri gaming industry or the state
120 of Missouri unless the licensee proves by clear and convincing evidence that it is not guilty of
121 such action. The commission shall take appropriate action against any licensee who violates the

122 law or the rules and regulations of the commission. Without limiting other provisions of this
123 subsection, the following acts or omissions may be grounds for such discipline:

124 (1) Failing to comply with or make provision for compliance with sections 313.800 to
125 313.850, the rules and regulations of the commission or any federal, state or local law or
126 regulation;

127 (2) Failing to comply with any rule, order or ruling of the commission or its agents
128 pertaining to gaming;

129 (3) Receiving goods or services from a person or business entity who does not hold a
130 supplier's license but who is required to hold such license by the provisions of sections 313.800
131 to 313.850 or the rules and regulations of the commission;

132 (4) Being suspended or ruled ineligible or having a license revoked or suspended in any
133 state of gaming jurisdiction;

134 (5) Associating with, either socially or in business affairs, or employing persons of
135 notorious or unsavory reputation or who have extensive police records, or who have failed to
136 cooperate with any officially constituted investigatory or administrative body and would
137 adversely affect public confidence and trust in gaming;

138 (6) Employing in any gambling games' operation or any excursion gambling boat
139 operation, any person known to have been found guilty of cheating or using any improper device
140 in connection with any gambling game;

141 (7) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any permit or
142 license issued pursuant to sections 313.800 to 313.850;

143 (8) Obtaining or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, or other compensation by fraud,
144 deception, or misrepresentation;

145 (9) Incompetence, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation or dishonesty
146 in the performance of the functions or duties regulated by sections 313.800 to 313.850.

147 **15. A holder of any license shall not be subject to imposition of penalties,**
148 **suspension or revocation of such license for inadequate declining performance.**

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