

HB 1251 -- ILLEGAL GAMBLING

SPONSOR: Cupps

Currently, the Missouri Gaming Commission can enter into agreements with various Federal, State, and local agencies to carry out the duties of the Commission. This bill allows the Commission to enter into similar agreements with the Missouri State Highway Patrol for investigations related to illegal gambling.

This bill also requires the Commission to establish a telephone contact number to be prominently displayed on the Commission's website. The contact number will be used to receive reports of suspected illegal gambling, which the Commission must then report to the Highway Patrol for further investigation. Upon request of the prosecuting attorney, the Attorney General can aid in such prosecution.

This bill further states that any person or establishment licensed under gaming laws that is convicted of or pleads guilty to illegal gambling, and any affiliated company of such person or establishment, must be permanently prohibited from being licensed to participate in any way in a program implementing video lottery gaming terminals. (Section 313.004, RSMo)

This bill allows the Supervisor of Liquor Control to refer to the Commission any suspected illegal gambling activity being conducted on the premises of a location licensed under the Liquor Control Act. (Section 311.660)

Upon notification by the Commission or a law enforcement agency of possession of an illegal gambling device, the Supervisor of Liquor Control must suspend or revoke such person's license on such terms and conditions as the Supervisor deems appropriate, provided such person must be given 10 days to remove the illegal gambling device from the premises. However, the Supervisor will not be required to give a person 10 days if it involves a second or subsequent violation. (Section 311.680)

Currently, a sheriff, peace officer, or eight or more citizens of a county or city can bring an action in circuit court to initiate proceedings to suspend or revoke a license issued under the Liquor Control Laws as a result of certain offenses committed by a licensee. This bill includes the act of permitting illegal gambling devices on the licensed premises of a licensee to the list of such offenses. (Section 311.710)

This bill provides that any conviction for illegal gambling that involves an illegal gambling device will result in the automatic

and permanent revocation of a lottery game retailer license.  
(Section 313.255)

This bill modifies definitions of "gambling device" and "slot machine" as it relates to the prosecution of illegal gambling.  
(Section 572.010)

This bill contains an emergency clause.

This bill is the same as SB 632 (2022).