



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

SB2931

Introduced 2/1/2012, by Sen. Michael Noland

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

230 ILCS 10/7
230 ILCS 10/11.2

from Ch. 120, par. 2407

Amends the Riverboat Gambling Act (1) to require the Illinois Gaming Board to award owners licenses to applicants whose plans (i) generate the highest amount of revenue to the State and (ii) provide for the least amount of cannibalization of existing licensees' revenues generated pursuant to the Act and (2) to condition the approval of relocation to a new home dock location for a licensee that was not conducting riverboat gambling on January 1, 1998 upon the determination that the new home dock provides for the least amount of cannibalization of an existing licensee's revenues. Effective upon becoming law.

LRB097 19373 AMC 64626 b

1 AN ACT concerning gaming.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Riverboat Gambling Act is amended by
5 changing Sections 7 and 11.2 as follows:

6 (230 ILCS 10/7) (from Ch. 120, par. 2407)

7 Sec. 7. Owners Licenses.

8 (a) The Board shall issue owners licenses to persons, firms
9 or corporations which apply for such licenses upon payment to
10 the Board of the non-refundable license fee set by the Board,
11 upon payment of a \$25,000 license fee for the first year of
12 operation and a \$5,000 license fee for each succeeding year and
13 upon a determination by the Board that the applicant is
14 eligible for an owners license pursuant to this Act and the
15 rules of the Board. From the effective date of this amendatory
16 Act of the 95th General Assembly until (i) 3 years after the
17 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General
18 Assembly, (ii) the date any organization licensee begins to
19 operate a slot machine or video game of chance under the
20 Illinois Horse Racing Act of 1975 or this Act, (iii) the date
21 that payments begin under subsection (c-5) of Section 13 of the
22 Act, or (iv) the wagering tax imposed under Section 13 of this
23 Act is increased by law to reflect a tax rate that is at least

1 as stringent or more stringent than the tax rate contained in
2 subsection (a-3) of Section 13, whichever occurs first, as a
3 condition of licensure and as an alternative source of payment
4 for those funds payable under subsection (c-5) of Section 13 of
5 the Riverboat Gambling Act, any owners licensee that holds or
6 receives its owners license on or after the effective date of
7 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, other than an
8 owners licensee operating a riverboat with adjusted gross
9 receipts in calendar year 2004 of less than \$200,000,000, must
10 pay into the Horse Racing Equity Trust Fund, in addition to any
11 other payments required under this Act, an amount equal to 3%
12 of the adjusted gross receipts received by the owners licensee.
13 The payments required under this Section shall be made by the
14 owners licensee to the State Treasurer no later than 3:00
15 o'clock p.m. of the day after the day when the adjusted gross
16 receipts were received by the owners licensee. A person, firm
17 or corporation is ineligible to receive an owners license if:

18 (1) the person has been convicted of a felony under the
19 laws of this State, any other state, or the United States;

20 (2) the person has been convicted of any violation of
21 Article 28 of the Criminal Code of 1961, or substantially
22 similar laws of any other jurisdiction;

23 (3) the person has submitted an application for a
24 license under this Act which contains false information;

25 (4) the person is a member of the Board;

26 (5) a person defined in (1), (2), (3) or (4) is an

1 officer, director or managerial employee of the firm or
2 corporation;

3 (6) the firm or corporation employs a person defined in
4 (1), (2), (3) or (4) who participates in the management or
5 operation of gambling operations authorized under this
6 Act;

7 (7) (blank); or

8 (8) a license of the person, firm or corporation issued
9 under this Act, or a license to own or operate gambling
10 facilities in any other jurisdiction, has been revoked.

11 The Board is expressly prohibited from making changes to
12 the requirement that licensees make payment into the Horse
13 Racing Equity Trust Fund without the express authority of the
14 Illinois General Assembly and making any other rule to
15 implement or interpret this amendatory Act of the 95th General
16 Assembly. For the purposes of this paragraph, "rules" is given
17 the meaning given to that term in Section 1-70 of the Illinois
18 Administrative Procedure Act.

19 (b) In determining whether to grant an owners license to an
20 applicant, the Board shall consider:

21 (1) the character, reputation, experience and
22 financial integrity of the applicants and of any other or
23 separate person that either:

24 (A) controls, directly or indirectly, such
25 applicant, or

26 (B) is controlled, directly or indirectly, by such

1 applicant or by a person which controls, directly or
2 indirectly, such applicant;

3 (2) the facilities or proposed facilities for the
4 conduct of riverboat gambling;

5 (3) the highest prospective total revenue to be derived
6 by the State from the conduct of riverboat gambling;

7 (4) the extent to which the ownership of the applicant
8 reflects the diversity of the State by including minority
9 persons, females, and persons with a disability and the
10 good faith affirmative action plan of each applicant to
11 recruit, train and upgrade minority persons, females, and
12 persons with a disability in all employment
13 classifications;

14 (5) the financial ability of the applicant to purchase
15 and maintain adequate liability and casualty insurance;

16 (6) whether the applicant has adequate capitalization
17 to provide and maintain, for the duration of a license, a
18 riverboat;

19 (7) the extent to which the applicant exceeds or meets
20 other standards for the issuance of an owners license which
21 the Board may adopt by rule; and

22 (8) The amount of the applicant's license bid.

23 (c) Each owners license shall specify the place where
24 riverboats shall operate and dock.

25 (d) Each applicant shall submit with his application, on
26 forms provided by the Board, 2 sets of his fingerprints.

1 (e) The Board may issue up to 10 licenses authorizing the
2 holders of such licenses to own riverboats. In the application
3 for an owners license, the applicant shall state the dock at
4 which the riverboat is based and the water on which the
5 riverboat will be located. The Board shall issue 5 licenses to
6 become effective not earlier than January 1, 1991. Three of
7 such licenses shall authorize riverboat gambling on the
8 Mississippi River, or, with approval by the municipality in
9 which the riverboat was docked on August 7, 2003 and with Board
10 approval, be authorized to relocate to a new location, in a
11 municipality that (1) borders on the Mississippi River or is
12 within 5 miles of the city limits of a municipality that
13 borders on the Mississippi River and (2), on August 7, 2003,
14 had a riverboat conducting riverboat gambling operations
15 pursuant to a license issued under this Act; one of which shall
16 authorize riverboat gambling from a home dock in the city of
17 East St. Louis. One other license shall authorize riverboat
18 gambling on the Illinois River south of Marshall County. The
19 Board shall issue one additional license to become effective
20 not earlier than March 1, 1992, which shall authorize riverboat
21 gambling on the Des Plaines River in Will County. The Board may
22 issue 4 additional licenses to become effective not earlier
23 than March 1, 1992. In determining the water upon which
24 riverboats will operate, the Board shall consider the economic
25 benefit which riverboat gambling confers on the State, and
26 shall seek to assure that all regions of the State share in the

1 economic benefits of riverboat gambling.

2 The Board shall award owners licenses to applicants whose
3 plans (i) generate the highest amount of revenue to the State
4 and (ii) provide for the least amount of cannibalization of
5 existing licensees' revenues generated pursuant to this Act.
6 For the purposes of this subsection (e), "cannibalization"
7 means the diversion of revenues generated pursuant to this Act
8 from existing licensees by an owners licensee authorized under
9 this subsection (e). In determining whether cannibalization
10 exists, the Board shall also consider the extent to which the
11 applicant can attract from market areas of neighboring states.

12 In granting all licenses, the Board may give favorable
13 consideration to economically depressed areas of the State, to
14 applicants presenting plans which provide for significant
15 economic development over a large geographic area, and to
16 applicants who currently operate non-gambling riverboats in
17 Illinois. The Board shall review all applications for owners
18 licenses, and shall inform each applicant of the Board's
19 decision. The Board may grant an owners license to an applicant
20 that has not submitted the highest license bid, but if it does
21 not select the highest bidder, the Board shall issue a written
22 decision explaining why another applicant was selected and
23 identifying the factors set forth in this Section that favored
24 the winning bidder.

25 In addition to any other revocation powers granted to the
26 Board under this Act, the Board may revoke the owners license

1 of a licensee which fails to begin conducting gambling within
2 15 months of receipt of the Board's approval of the application
3 if the Board determines that license revocation is in the best
4 interests of the State.

5 (f) The first 10 owners licenses issued under this Act
6 shall permit the holder to own up to 2 riverboats and equipment
7 thereon for a period of 3 years after the effective date of the
8 license. Holders of the first 10 owners licenses must pay the
9 annual license fee for each of the 3 years during which they
10 are authorized to own riverboats.

11 (g) Upon the termination, expiration, or revocation of each
12 of the first 10 licenses, which shall be issued for a 3 year
13 period, all licenses are renewable annually upon payment of the
14 fee and a determination by the Board that the licensee
15 continues to meet all of the requirements of this Act and the
16 Board's rules. However, for licenses renewed on or after May 1,
17 1998, renewal shall be for a period of 4 years, unless the
18 Board sets a shorter period.

19 (h) An owners license shall entitle the licensee to own up
20 to 2 riverboats. A licensee shall limit the number of gambling
21 participants to 1,200 for any such owners license. A licensee
22 may operate both of its riverboats concurrently, provided that
23 the total number of gambling participants on both riverboats
24 does not exceed 1,200. Riverboats licensed to operate on the
25 Mississippi River and the Illinois River south of Marshall
26 County shall have an authorized capacity of at least 500

1 persons. Any other riverboat licensed under this Act shall have
2 an authorized capacity of at least 400 persons.

3 (i) A licensed owner is authorized to apply to the Board
4 for and, if approved therefor, to receive all licenses from the
5 Board necessary for the operation of a riverboat, including a
6 liquor license, a license to prepare and serve food for human
7 consumption, and other necessary licenses. All use, occupation
8 and excise taxes which apply to the sale of food and beverages
9 in this State and all taxes imposed on the sale or use of
10 tangible personal property apply to such sales aboard the
11 riverboat.

12 (j) The Board may issue or re-issue a license authorizing a
13 riverboat to dock in a municipality or approve a relocation
14 under Section 11.2 only if, prior to the issuance or
15 re-issuance of the license or approval, the governing body of
16 the municipality in which the riverboat will dock has by a
17 majority vote approved the docking of riverboats in the
18 municipality. The Board may issue or re-issue a license
19 authorizing a riverboat to dock in areas of a county outside
20 any municipality or approve a relocation under Section 11.2
21 only if, prior to the issuance or re-issuance of the license or
22 approval, the governing body of the county has by a majority
23 vote approved of the docking of riverboats within such areas.

24 (Source: P.A. 95-1008, eff. 12-15-08; 96-1392, eff. 1-1-11.)

1 Sec. 11.2. Relocation of riverboat home dock.

2 (a) A licensee that was not conducting riverboat gambling
3 on January 1, 1998 may apply to the Board for ~~renewal and~~
4 approval of relocation to a new home dock location authorized
5 under Section 3(c) upon renewal of the license and the Board
6 shall grant the application and approval (i) upon receipt by
7 the licensee of approval from the new municipality or county,
8 as the case may be, in which the licensee wishes to relocate
9 pursuant to Section 7(j) and (ii) upon the determination that
10 the new home dock provides for the least amount of
11 cannibalization, as defined in subsection (e) of Section 7, of
12 an existing licensee's revenues generated pursuant to this Act.

13 (b) Any licensee that relocates its home dock pursuant to
14 this Section shall attain a level of at least 20% minority
15 person and female ownership, at least 16% and 4% respectively,
16 within a time period prescribed by the Board, but not to exceed
17 12 months from the date the licensee begins conducting gambling
18 at the new home dock location. The 12-month period shall be
19 extended by the amount of time necessary to conduct a
20 background investigation pursuant to Section 6. For the
21 purposes of this Section, the terms "female" and "minority
22 person" have the meanings provided in Section 2 of the Business
23 Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with
24 Disabilities Act.

25 (Source: P.A. 91-40, eff. 6-25-99.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.