

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries & Utilities offered the following substitute to SB 172:

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 Georgia Lottery Corporation to engage in certain activities related to sports betting;  
5 to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for definitions; to  
6 create a public corporation to regulate sports betting; to provide for such corporation to be  
7 governed by the Georgia Sports Betting Commission; to provide for the qualifications,  
8 appointment, removal, and powers of the commission and its members; to provide for the  
9 appointment and compensation of a chief executive officer; to provide for the procedures,  
10 limitations, requirements, and qualifications of the licensing of any person offering,  
11 operating, or managing sports betting in this state; to provide for criminal background  
12 checks; to regulate wagers and provide requirements for bettors; to provide for bettors to  
13 restrict themselves from placing certain wagers; to provide certain resources for individuals  
14 with problem gambling or a betting or gambling disorder; to provide for a privilege tax; to  
15 require certain reports; to provide for the collection and disposition of fees and fines; to  
16 prohibit certain conduct by commissioners, employees of the corporation, licensees, and  
17 other persons; to provide for certain penalties; to provide for construction; to provide bettors  
18 with certain rights; to amend Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code

19 of Georgia Annotated, relating to gambling, so as to exclude any consideration paid to a  
 20 sports betting licensee from the definition of "bet"; to provide for the exemption of persons  
 21 licensed for sports betting from regulations and restrictions regarding gambling information;  
 22 to amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and  
 23 taxation, so as to exempt wagers placed as part of sports betting; to provide for related  
 24 matters; to provide for a contingent effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting  
 25 laws; and for other purposes.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

27 **PART I**  
 28 **SECTION 1-1.**

29 Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government, is amended  
 30 in Code Section 50-27-9, relating to general powers of the Georgia Lottery Corporation, by  
 31 revising paragraphs (18) and (19) of and adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) to read as  
 32 follows:

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

36 (19) To perform any actions and carry out any responsibilities provided for in Article 4  
 37 of this chapter and Chapter 28 of this title; and

38 ~~(19)~~(20) To adopt and amend such regulations, policies, and procedures as necessary to  
 39 carry out and implement its powers and duties, organize and operate the corporation,  
 40 regulate the conduct of lottery games in general, and any other matters necessary or  
 41 desirable for the efficient and effective operation of the lottery or the convenience of the  
 42 public. The promulgation of any such regulations, policies, and procedures shall be

43 exempt from the requirements of Chapter 13 of this title, the 'Georgia Administrative  
44 Procedure Act.'"

45 **SECTION 1-2.**

46 Said title is further amended by adding a new article to Chapter 27, relating to lottery for  
47 education, to read as follows:

48 "ARTICLE 4

49 50-27-120.

50 As used in this article, the term:

51 (1) 'Online sports betting' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code  
52 Section 50-28-3.

53 (2) 'Online sports betting services provider' shall have the same meaning as provided in  
54 Code Section 50-28-3.

55 (3) 'Type 1 sports betting licensee' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code  
56 Section 50-28-3.

57 50-27-121.

58 The corporation, as a Type 1 sports betting licensee as provided in Code Section 50-28-43,  
59 may offer online sports betting; provided, however, that the corporation shall only offer  
60 online sports betting through an online sports betting services provider. If the corporation  
61 elects to offer online sports betting, it shall, through a public procurement process to be  
62 established by the corporation, select one online sports betting services provider to contract  
63 with to provide sports betting in this state as governed by Chapter 28 of this title. The  
64 board shall develop and adopt procedures for such public procurement process. The  
65 corporation may administer such public procurement process in accordance with the

66 board's procedures on its own or it may choose to utilize the services of the Department of  
67 Administrative Services or any other state agency or subdivision thereof to administer such  
68 process."

69 **PART II**  
70 **SECTION 2-1.**

71 Said title is further amended by revising Chapter 28, which was reserved, as follows:

72 "CHAPTER 28

73 ARTICLE 1

74 Part 1

75 50-28-1.

76 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the 'Georgia Sports Betting Integrity Act.'

77 50-28-2.

78 It is found and declared by the General Assembly that:

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

83 (2) The commission 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 (3) The ability to offer sports betting in this state under a license issued in accordance  
87 with this chapter constitutes a taxable privilege and not a right;

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

90 (5) Sports betting shall be conducted in a manner so as to safeguard the fiscal soundness  
91 of the state, enhance public welfare, and support the funding authorized by Article I,  
92 Section II, Paragraph VIII of the Constitution.

93 50-28-3.

94 As used in this chapter, the term:

95 (1) 'Adjusted gross income' means the total of all moneys actually paid to a licensee as  
96 bets minus federal excise taxes and minus the total amount actually paid out to winning  
97 bettors over a specified period of time.

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

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

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

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

102 (C) Not prohibited from placing a wager or bet under Code Section 50-28-82.

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

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

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

- 112 (7) 'Commission' means the Georgia Sports Betting Commission created pursuant to  
113 Code Section 50-28-4.
- 114 (8) 'Commission vendor' means a contractor, subcontractor, or independent contractor  
115 hired by or contracted with the commission or a licensee for the purpose of facilitating  
116 the business of the commission or licensee under this chapter.
- 117 (9) 'Commissioner' means a member of the Georgia Sports Betting Commission.
- 118 (10) 'Corporation' means the Georgia Gaming Corporation.
- 119 (11) 'Executive director' means the chief executive officer of the corporation and the  
120 executive director of the commission.
- 121 (12) 'Fantasy or simulated contest' means a game or event in which one or more players  
122 compete and winning outcomes reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the player or  
123 players and are determined predominantly by accumulated statistical results of the  
124 performance of individuals, which may include, but shall not be limited to, athletes in  
125 sporting events.
- 126 (13) 'Fixed-odds betting' means bets made at predetermined odds or on the spread where  
127 the return to the bettor is unaffected by any later change in odds or the spread.
- 128 (14) 'Futures bet' means a wager made on the occurrence of an event in the future  
129 relating to a sporting event.
- 130 (15) 'License' means a license issued by the commission under this chapter.
- 131 (16) 'Licensee' means a person that holds a license issued by the commission under this  
132 chapter.
- 133 (17) 'Live betting' means a type of wager that is placed while the sporting event is in  
134 progress and for which the odds on sporting events occurring are adjusted in real time.
- 135 (18) 'Material nonpublic information' means information that has not been disseminated  
136 publicly concerning an athlete, contestant, prospective contestant, or athletic team,  
137 including, without limitation, confidential information related to medical conditions or  
138 treatment, physical or mental health or conditioning, physical therapy or recovery,

139 discipline, sanctions, academic status, education records, eligibility, playbooks, signals,  
140 schemes, techniques, game plans, practices, strategies, assessments, systems, drills, or  
141 recordings of practices or other athletic activities.

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

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

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

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

155 (23) 'Online sports betting' means a wager on a sporting event that is placed via the  
156 internet through any electronic device other than a Type 2 sports betting machine and  
157 accepted through an online sports betting platform that is operated by a Type 1 sports  
158 betting licensee or such licensee's online sports betting services provider.

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

162 (25) 'Online sports betting services provider' means a person that contracts with a Type 1  
163 sports betting licensee under Code Section 50-28-43 to operate online sports betting on  
164 behalf of the Type 1 sports betting licensee and that is licensed by the commission.

165 (26) 'Over-under bet' means a single wager that predicts whether the combined score of  
166 the two persons or teams engaged in a sporting event will be lower or higher than a  
167 predetermined number.

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

170 (28) 'Person' means an individual or entity.

171 (29) 'Principal owner' means a person that owns an interest of 10 percent or more of the  
172 entity.

173 (30) 'Professional sports team' means a major league professional team that plays  
174 baseball, football, basketball, hockey, or soccer.

175 (31) 'Proposition bet' means a wager that does not depend on the final result of a sporting  
176 event but on some occurrence within it.

177 (32) 'Relative' means a spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother,  
178 brother, sister, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law,  
179 son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother,  
180 stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, or half-sister.

181 (33) 'Retail sports betting' means sports betting in which wagers, other than live betting  
182 wagers, are placed by the bettor through a Type 2 sports betting machine at a Type 2  
183 sports betting retail licensee's place of business.

184 (34) 'Sporting event' means any:

185 (A) Professional sporting or professional athletic event, including motor sports  
186 sanctioned by a national or international organization or association;

187 (B) Collegiate sporting event;

188 (C) Olympic sporting or athletic event;

189 (D) Sporting or athletic event sanctioned by a national or international organization or  
190 association;

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

192 (F) Other event authorized by the commission.

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

195 (35) 'Sporting events operator' means a person that conducts or organizes a sporting  
196 event for athletes or other participants that is not held or sanctioned as an official sporting  
197 event of a sports governing body.

198 (36) 'Sports betting' means placing one or more wagers for a sporting event.

199 (37) 'Sports betting equipment' means any of the following that directly relate to or  
200 affect, or are used in, the operation of sports betting:

201 (A) Any mechanical, electronic, or other device, mechanism, or equipment, including  
202 Type 2 sports betting machines;

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

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

205 (38) 'Sports betting license' means any of the licenses issued by the commission under  
206 this chapter.

207 (39) 'Sports betting licensee' means a person that holds a valid sports betting license  
208 issued by the commission under this chapter.

209 (40)(A) 'Sports betting supplier' means a person that provides sports betting equipment  
210 necessary for the creation of sports betting markets and the determination of bet  
211 outcomes, directly or indirectly, to any sports betting licensee involved in the  
212 acceptance of bets, including any of the following:

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

214 (ii) Providers of Type 2 sports betting machines;

215 (iii) Internet platform providers;

216 (iv) Risk management providers;

217 (v) Integrity monitoring providers; and

218 (vi) Other providers of sports betting supplier services as determined by the  
219 commission.

220 (B) Such term shall not include a sports governing body that:

221 (i) Provides official league data concerning its own sporting event to a sports betting  
222 licensee solely on that basis; or

223 (ii) Provides raw statistical match data to one or more designated and licensed  
224 suppliers of data feeds and odds services solely on that basis.

225 (41) 'Sports governing body' means the organization, league, or association that oversees  
226 a sport and prescribes final rules and enforces codes of conduct with respect to such sport  
227 and participants therein.

228 (42) 'Spread' means the predicted scoring differential between two persons or teams  
229 engaged in a sporting event.

230 (43) 'Supervisory employee' means a principal owner or employee having the authority  
231 to act on behalf of a licensee or whose judgment is relied upon to manage and advance  
232 the business operations of a licensee.

233 (44) 'Tier 1 sports wager' means a wager that is not a tier 2 sports wager.

234 (45) 'Tier 2 sports wager' means a wager that is placed on a sporting event while the  
235 sporting event is in progress that does not depend on the final results of the sporting event  
236 but on some occurrence within it.

237 (46) 'Type 1 sports betting licensee' means a person licensed or authorized by the  
238 commission to directly or indirectly offer online sports betting.

239 (47) 'Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee' means a person licensed or authorized by  
240 the commission to purchase and own Type 2 sports betting machines that permit  
241 individuals to engage in retail sports betting through a Type 2 sports betting platform  
242 licensee, and to place such machines at a Type 2 sports betting retail licensee's place of  
243 business.

244 (48) 'Type 2 sports betting machine' means a self-service or clerk operated electronic  
245 machine approved by the commission that is owned by a Type 2 sports betting distributor  
246 licensee and that permits individuals to engage in retail sports betting through a Type 2  
247 sports betting platform licensee while on the premises of a Type 2 sports betting retail  
248 licensee's place of business; provided, however, that such machines shall not permit live  
249 betting wagers. Such term shall not include a bona fide coin operated amusement  
250 machine.

251 (49) 'Type 2 sports betting platform licensee' means a sports betting platform operator  
252 licensed or authorized by the commission to offer retail sports betting on behalf of the  
253 commission at a Type 2 sports betting retail licensee's place of business through Type 2  
254 sports betting machines owned by Type 2 sports betting distributor licensees.

255 (50) 'Type 2 sports betting retail licensee' means an entity licensed or authorized by the  
256 commission to allow the placement of Type 2 sports betting machines owned by Type 2  
257 sports betting distributor licensees in their places of business that permit individuals to  
258 engage in retail sports betting through a Type 2 sports betting platform licensee.

259 (51) '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, live betting, a money line bet, an over-under bet, a parlay bet, a proposition  
262 bet, or a bet on the spread. Such term shall not include a pari-mutuel bet or wager and  
263 shall not include entry fees paid to participate in a fantasy or simulated contest.

264 50-28-4.

265 (a) There is created a body corporate and politic to be known as the Georgia Gaming  
266 Corporation which shall be deemed to be an instrumentality of the state, and not a state  
267 agency, and a public corporation. Venue for the corporation shall be in Fulton County.

268 (b)(1) The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors.

269 (2) Until otherwise provided by law, the commissioners of the Georgia Sports Betting  
270 Commission appointed as provided in Code Section 50-28-5 shall, in addition to serving  
271 as members of the commission, serve as members of the board of directors of the  
272 corporation.

273 (3) The executive director of the Georgia Sports Betting Commission appointed as  
274 provided in Code Section 50-28-8 shall, in addition to serving as executive director of the  
275 commission, serve as chief executive officer of the corporation.

276 (c) The board of directors of the corporation shall:

277 (1) Oversee the chief executive officer and the operations of the corporation and any  
278 commissions thereof;

279 (2) Adopt bylaws of the corporation, not inconsistent with law, for the administration of  
280 its affairs;

281 (3) Approve or disapprove the employment of any person with the corporation by any  
282 commission thereof; and

283 (4) Perform such other duties as provided by law.

284 50-28-5.

285 (a) The commission shall be composed of seven members as follows:

286 (1) Three members appointed by the Governor;

287 (2) Two members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and

288 (3) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

289 (b) The terms of office of the members of the commission shall be four years, except that:

290 (1)(A) The initial term of office of the three gubernatorial appointees shall be one, two,  
291 and three years, respectively, and when making such appointments, the Governor shall  
292 make such appointments on or before January 3, 2025, and shall specify the length of  
293 such initial term for each of the three appointments;

294 (B) The initial term of office of the two members appointed by the Lieutenant  
295 Governor shall be two and four years, respectively, and when making such  
296 appointments the Lieutenant Governor shall make such appointments on or before  
297 January 3, 2025, and shall specify the length of such initial term for each of the two  
298 appointments; and

299 (C) The initial term of office of the two members appointed by the Speaker of the  
300 House of Representatives shall be one and three years, respectively, and when making  
301 such appointments the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall make such  
302 appointments on or before January 3, 2025, and shall specify the length of such initial  
303 term for each of the two appointments;

304 (2) All successors shall be appointed in the same manner as the original appointments;

305 (3) Vacancies in office shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

306 An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term; and

307 (4) No member shall serve more than two full consecutive terms; provided, however, that  
308 an initial term of office provided for under paragraph (1) of this subsection that is less  
309 than three years shall not constitute a full term for purposes of this paragraph; and  
310 provided, further, that a member appointed to fill a vacancy as provided for under  
311 paragraph (3) of this subsection may serve two full terms following the expiration of the  
312 term related to the vacancy.

313 (c) The appointing authorities shall consider the following criteria when making  
314 appointments to the commission:

315 (1) At least one member shall have at least ten years of experience in law enforcement  
316 and criminal investigations;

317 (2) At least one member shall be a certified public accountant licensed in this state with  
318 at least ten years of experience in accounting and auditing; and

319 (3) At least one member shall be an attorney admitted and authorized to practice law in  
320 this state for at least ten years preceding such appointment.

321 (d) To be considered for appointment to the commission, the person shall have obtained  
322 a certificate of fitness for sports betting affiliation pursuant to Code Section 50-28-30.

323 (e) A person shall be ineligible for appointment to the commission if he or she:

324 (1) For a period of one year immediately preceding the date of appointment:

325 (A) Held a license issued under this chapter, Chapter 27 of this title, or a gaming  
326 license issued by any other jurisdiction;

327 (B) Was an officer, official, or employee of a licensee;

328 (C) Held 5 percent or more, whether directly or indirectly, of a beneficial ownership  
329 of a licensee;

330 (D) Was a registered lobbyist for the executive or legislative branch, except while a  
331 commissioner or employee of the corporation when officially representing the  
332 commission; or

333 (E) Was an employee or member of the Georgia Lottery Corporation;

334 (2) Had a license issued under this chapter, Chapter 27 of this title, or a gaming license  
335 issued by any other jurisdiction denied, suspended, or revoked;

336 (3) Acquired any direct or indirect interest in an applicant or a licensee;

337 (4) Had any direct or indirect business association, partnership, or financial relationship  
338 with an applicant or licensee; or

339 (5) Is a relative of any applicant or licensee.

340 50-28-6.

341 A member of the commission shall be removed from office by the appointing authority:

342 (1) For misconduct in office, willful neglect of duty, conduct evidencing unfitness for  
343 office, or incompetence; or

344 (2) Upon conviction of a felony offense, an offense under this chapter or Chapter 27 of  
345 this title, or an equivalent offense under federal law or the law of another jurisdiction.

346 50-28-7.

347 (a) The commission shall convene at the call of its chairperson, as selected by and from  
348 the members of the commission, or at the request of a majority of the members of the  
349 commission.

350 (b) Meetings of the commission may be held via teleconference or other electronic means  
351 or in any city or county of the state.

352 (c) Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum, and the affirmative vote  
353 of the majority of a quorum shall be required for any action or recommendation by the  
354 commission. The affirmative vote of at least three members is required to adopt a proposed  
355 rule or regulation, including an amendment to or repeal of an existing rule or regulation.

356 50-28-8.

357 (a) The commission shall appoint a person who is not a member of the commission to  
358 serve as the executive director of the commission and who shall be confirmed by the  
359 Senate. Such person shall also serve as the chief executive officer of the corporation. No  
360 person shall be appointed as executive director unless he or she has been issued a certificate  
361 of fitness for sports betting affiliation pursuant to Code Section 50-28-30.

362 (b) The executive director shall supervise, direct, coordinate, and administer all activities  
363 necessary to fulfill the commission's responsibilities. The commission shall appoint the  
364 executive director by April 1, 2025.

365 (c) The executive director shall be appointed for a term of five years or until his or her  
366 successor is appointed and confirmed.

367 (d) The compensation of the executive director shall be fixed by the commission, provided  
368 that such compensation shall not be less than 1 percent nor more than 5 percent of the total  
369 privilege taxes collected by the commission under Code Section 50-28-70 in any  
370 corresponding fiscal year.

371 50-28-9.

372 (a) The commission shall have all powers and duties necessary to carry out the provisions  
373 of this chapter and to exercise the control of sports betting in this state as authorized by this  
374 chapter. Such powers and duties shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

375 (1) To have jurisdiction, supervision, and regulatory authority over sports betting;

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

378 (3) To appoint and employ such persons on behalf of the corporation as the commission  
379 deems essential to perform its duties under this chapter and to ensure that sports betting  
380 is conducted with order and the highest integrity. Such employees shall possess such  
381 authority and perform such duties as the commission shall prescribe or delegate to them.  
382 Such employees may include stewards, chemists, physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists,  
383 counselors, therapists, inspectors, accountants, attorneys, security officers, and such other  
384 employees deemed by the commission to be necessary for the supervision and proper  
385 conduct of the highest standard of sports betting. Such employees shall be compensated  
386 as provided by the commission;

387 (4) To enter upon, investigate, and have free access to all places of business of any  
388 licensee under this chapter and to compel the production of any books, ledgers,  
389 documents, records, memoranda, or other information of any licensee to ensure such  
390 licensee's compliance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the commission  
391 pursuant to this chapter;

392 (5) To promulgate any rules and regulations as the commission deems necessary and  
393 proper pursuant to Chapter 13 of this title, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act,'  
394 to administer the provisions of this chapter; provided, however, that the initial rules and  
395 regulations governing sports betting shall be promulgated and adopted by the commission  
396 within 90 days of the effective date of this chapter after an opportunity has been provided

397 for public comment. The promulgation and adoption of such initial rules and regulations  
398 shall not be subject to Chapter 13 of this title;

399 (6) To issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses before the commission,  
400 administer oaths, and compel production of records or other documents and testimony of  
401 witnesses whenever, in the judgment of the commission, it is necessary to do so for the  
402 effectual discharge of the duties of the commission;

403 (7) To compel any person licensed by the commission to file with the commission such  
404 data, documents, and information as shall appear to the commission to be necessary for  
405 the performance of its duties, including, but not limited to, financial statements and  
406 information relative to stockholders and all others with a pecuniary interest in such  
407 person;

408 (8) To prescribe the manner in which books and records of persons licensed or permitted  
409 by the commission shall be kept;

410 (9) To enter into arrangements with any foreign or domestic government or  
411 governmental agency for the purposes of exchanging information or performing any other  
412 act to better ensure the proper conduct of sports betting under this chapter;

413 (10) To order such audits, in addition to those otherwise required by this chapter, as the  
414 commission deems necessary and desirable;

415 (11) Upon the receipt of a complaint of an alleged criminal violation of this chapter, to  
416 immediately report such complaint to the appropriate law enforcement agency with  
417 jurisdiction to investigate criminal activity;

418 (12) To provide for the reporting of the applicable amount of state and federal income  
419 taxes of persons claiming a prize or payoff for a winning wager;

420 (13) To establish and administer programs for providing assistance to compulsive or  
421 problem gamblers, including, but not limited to:

422 (A) Educating potential gamblers of methods and types of bets and fairly informing  
423 potential gamblers of the odds or likelihood of winning such bets;

- 424 (B) Establishing and administering programs for educating potential gamblers about  
425 responsible gambling, the warning signs of problem or compulsive gambling, and how  
426 to prevent and treat problem or compulsive gambling;
- 427 (C) Developing and funding responsible gaming education campaigns coupled with  
428 prevention and education efforts within communities that raise awareness of potential  
429 signs or risk factors of problem or compulsive gambling;
- 430 (D) Encouraging the use of harm-minimizing measures by bettors, such as excluding  
431 or limiting oneself from obtaining credit extensions, making credit card or cashless  
432 payments, cashing checks, and making automated teller machine withdrawals, as well  
433 as utilizing limit-setting tools and personal data and information to make informed  
434 decisions about gambling;
- 435 (E) Promulgating rules and regulations that enable bettors to cool off, self-limit, and  
436 self-exclude from gaming activities state wide and across multiple jurisdictions;
- 437 (F) Adopting processes for individuals to express concerns related to problem or  
438 compulsive gambling to the commission;
- 439 (G) Developing state-wide advertising guidelines to ensure that the marketing of sports  
440 betting is not targeted to minors and does not include content, themes, and promotions  
441 that have special appeal to problem or compulsive gamblers;
- 442 (H) Requiring the electronic posting of signs or notifications on online sports betting  
443 platforms that bear a toll-free number for an organization that provides assistance to  
444 problem or compulsive gamblers; and
- 445 (I) Promulgating rules and regulations to limit the amount of bets a bettor can place  
446 when such bettor has exhibited signs of problem or compulsive gambling;
- 447 (14) To eject or exclude from a sports betting facility or any part thereof any individual,  
448 whether licensed or not, whose conduct or reputation is such that his or her presence may,  
449 in the opinion of the commission or the designated employees of the corporation, reflect

450 adversely on the honesty and integrity of sports betting or interfere with the orderly  
451 conduct of sports betting;

452 (15) To keep a true and full record of all proceedings of the commission under this  
453 chapter and preserve at the commission's general office all books, documents, and papers  
454 of the commission; and

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

457 (b) The commission shall not have the power to prescribe a licensee's maximum or  
458 minimum payout or hold percentage.

459 (c) The commission shall not have the power to issue or award and shall not issue or award  
460 any licenses provided for in this chapter prior to September 1, 2025.

461 50-28-10.

462 (a) The commission shall not employ any person on behalf of the corporation if such  
463 person:

464 (1) For a period of one year immediately preceding the date of appointment:

465 (A) Held a license issued under this chapter, Chapter 27 of this title, or a gaming  
466 license issued by any other jurisdiction;

467 (B) Was an officer, official, or employee of a licensee;

468 (C) Held 5 percent or more, whether directly or indirectly, of a beneficial ownership  
469 of a licensee;

470 (D) Was a registered lobbyist for the executive or legislative branch, except while a  
471 commissioner or employee of the corporation when officially representing the  
472 commission; or

473 (E) Was an employee or member of the Georgia Lottery Corporation;

474 (2) Had a license issued under this chapter or Chapter 27 of this title or a gaming license  
475 issued by any other jurisdiction denied, suspended, or revoked;

476 (3) Acquired any direct or indirect interest in an applicant or a licensee;  
477 (4) Had any direct or indirect business association, partnership, or financial relationship  
478 with an applicant or licensee;  
479 (5) Is a relative of any applicant or licensee; or  
480 (6) Was dismissed from prior employment for gross misconduct or incompetence.  
481 (b) A person who is ineligible for employment under paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of  
482 this Code section may submit a waiver request to the corporation for consideration of  
483 employment eligibility. The corporation shall consider waiver requests on a case-by-case  
484 basis and shall issue the final approval or denial of each request. If the corporation  
485 approves the request, the person shall not be ineligible for employment based upon  
486 paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of this Code section.

487 50-28-11.

488 (a) If an employee of the corporation who was hired or appointed by the commission is  
489 charged with a felony while employed by the corporation, the commission shall suspend  
490 the employee, with or without pay, and terminate such individual's employment with the  
491 corporation upon conviction.

492 (b) If an employee of the corporation who was hired or appointed by the commission is  
493 charged with a misdemeanor while employed by the corporation, the commission shall  
494 suspend the employee, with or without pay, and may terminate such individual's  
495 employment with the corporation upon conviction if the commission determines that the  
496 offense bears a close relationship to the employment duties and responsibilities of the  
497 position held with the corporation by such individual.

498

Part 2499 50-28-20.

500 (a) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation who was hired or appointed by the  
501 commission shall notify the commission within three calendar days after arrest for any  
502 offense.

503 (b) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation who was hired or appointed by the  
504 commission shall immediately provide to the commission detailed written notice of the  
505 circumstances if the member or employee is indicted, is charged with, is convicted of,  
506 pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or forfeits bail for:

507 (1) A misdemeanor involving gambling, dishonesty, theft, or fraud;

508 (2) A violation of any law in any state or a federal law or a law of any other jurisdiction  
509 involving gambling, dishonesty, theft, or fraud which would constitute a misdemeanor  
510 under the laws of this state; or

511 (3) A felony under the laws of this or any other state, the United States, or any other  
512 jurisdiction.

513 50-28-21.

514 (a) A commissioner or employee of the corporation shall not accept gifts or similar items  
515 from any business entity that, directly or indirectly, owns or controls any person regulated  
516 by the commission or from any business entity that, directly or indirectly, is an affiliate or  
517 subsidiary of any person regulated by the commission.

518 (b) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation may attend conferences, including  
519 partaking of associated meals and events that are generally available to all conference  
520 participants, without payment of any fees in addition to the conference fee. While  
521 attending a conference, a commissioner or an employee may attend meetings, meals, or  
522 events that are not sponsored, in whole or in part, by any representative of any person

523 regulated by the commission and that are limited to commissioners or employees only,  
524 committee members, or speakers, if the commissioner or employee is a member of a  
525 committee of the association of regulatory agencies which organized the conference or is  
526 a speaker at the conference. It is not a violation of this subsection for a commissioner or  
527 an employee to attend a conference for which conference participants who are employed  
528 by a person regulated by the commission have paid a higher conference registration fee  
529 than the commissioner or employee, or to attend a meal or event that is generally available  
530 to all conference participants without payment of any fees in addition to the conference fee  
531 and that is sponsored, in whole or in part, by a person regulated by the commission.

532 (c) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation shall not accept anything of value  
533 from a party in a proceeding currently pending before the commission.

534 (d) A commissioner shall not:

535 (1) Serve as the representative of any political party or on any executive committee or  
536 other governing body of a political party;

537 (2) Serve as an executive officer or employee of any political party, committee,  
538 organization, or association;

539 (3) Receive remuneration for activities on behalf of any candidate for public office;

540 (4) Engage on behalf of any candidate for public office in the solicitation of votes or  
541 other activities on behalf of such candidacy; or

542 (5) Become a candidate for election to any public office without first resigning from  
543 office.

544 (e) A commissioner, during his or her term of office, shall not make any public comment  
545 regarding the merits of any proceeding currently pending before the commission.

546 (f) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation shall not act in an unprofessional  
547 manner at any time during the performance of his or her official duties.

548 (g) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation shall avoid impropriety in all  
549 activities and shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the  
550 integrity and impartiality of the commission.

551 (h) A commissioner or an employee of the corporation shall not, directly or indirectly,  
552 through staff or other means, solicit anything of value from any person regulated by the  
553 commission, or from any business entity that, whether directly or indirectly, is an affiliate  
554 or a subsidiary of any person regulated by the commission, or from any party appearing in  
555 a proceeding considered by the commission in the preceding calendar year.

556 (i) A commissioner shall not personally represent another person or entity for  
557 compensation before the executive or legislative branch or any county or municipal  
558 government or governmental agency except to represent the commission in an official  
559 capacity.

560 (j) The Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission shall  
561 accept and investigate any alleged violations of this Code section. For any investigation  
562 of alleged violations, the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance  
563 Commission shall provide the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the  
564 House of Representatives with a report of its findings and recommendations. The  
565 Governor is authorized to enforce recommendations of the Georgia Government  
566 Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. A commissioner or an employee of the  
567 corporation may request an advisory opinion from the Georgia Government Transparency  
568 and Campaign Finance Commission regarding the standards of conduct or prohibitions set  
569 forth in this Code section.

570 (k) If, during the course of an investigation by the Georgia Government Transparency and  
571 Campaign Finance Commission into an alleged violation of this Code section, allegations  
572 are made as to the identity of the person giving or providing the prohibited thing, such  
573 identified person shall be given notice and an opportunity to participate in the investigation  
574 and relevant proceedings to present a defense. If the Georgia Government Transparency

575 and Campaign Finance Commission determines such identified person gave or provided  
576 a prohibited thing, such identified person shall not appear before the commission or  
577 otherwise represent anyone before the commission for a period of two years.

578 (l) A commissioner, an employee of the corporation, or a relative living in the same  
579 household as a commissioner or an employee shall not place a wager with any licensee.

580 50-28-22.

581 (a) A commissioner, the executive director, and an employee of the corporation shall not  
582 personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the executive or  
583 legislative branch for a period of one year following the commissioner's or executive  
584 director's end of service or a period of one year following employment unless employed  
585 by another agency of state government.

586 (b) A commissioner shall not, for one year immediately following the date of resignation  
587 or termination from the commission:

588 (1) Hold a license issued under this chapter; be an officer, official, or employee of a  
589 licensee; or hold 5 percent or more, whether directly or indirectly, of the beneficial  
590 ownership of such licensee; or

591 (2) Accept employment by, or compensation from, a business entity that, directly or  
592 indirectly, owns or hold a license issued under this chapter;

593 (3) Be an officer, official, or employee of such licensee; or

594 (4) Hold 5 percent or more, whether directly or indirectly, of the beneficial ownership  
595 interest of:

596 (A) Any person regulated by the commission;

597 (B) A business entity which, directly or indirectly, is an affiliate or subsidiary of a  
598 person regulated by the commission; or

599 (C) A business entity or trade association that has appeared before the commission  
600 within one year preceding the commissioner's resignation or termination of service on  
601 the commission.

602 (c) An employee of the corporation shall not, for one year immediately following the date  
603 of termination or resignation from employment with the corporation, hold a license issued  
604 under this chapter; be an officer, official or employee of a licensee; or hold 5 percent or  
605 more, whether directly or indirectly, of the beneficial ownership interest in any person  
606 regulated by the commission.

607 (d) Any person violating this Code section shall be subject to the penalties for violations  
608 of standards of conduct for public officers, employees of agencies, and local government  
609 attorneys and a civil penalty of an amount equal to the compensation that such person  
610 receives for the prohibited conduct.

611 ARTICLE 2

612 Part 1

613 50-28-30.

614 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'department' means the Department of Revenue.

615 (b) Each person required under subsection (d) of Code Section 50-28-5, subsection (a) of  
616 Code Section 50-28-8, and paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of Code Section 50-28-40 to  
617 have a certificate of fitness for sports betting affiliation shall submit to the department an  
618 application for such certification. Such application shall constitute express consent and  
619 authorization for the department to perform a criminal background check. Each applicant  
620 who submits an application to the department for certification agrees to provide the  
621 department with any and all information necessary to run a criminal background check,  
622 including, but not limited to, classifiable sets of fingerprints as set forth in subsection (c)

623 of this Code section. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the  
624 performance of such background check.

625 (c) An applicant who submits an application for a certificate of fitness for sports betting  
626 affiliation to the department shall submit, with the application, one set of classifiable  
627 electronically recorded fingerprints to the department in accordance with the fingerprint  
628 system of identification established by the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
629 The department shall transmit the fingerprints to the Georgia Crime Information Center,  
630 which shall perform technical searches of the fingerprints, as required by the National  
631 Fingerprint File Qualification Requirements, and, thereafter, submit the fingerprints to the  
632 Federal Bureau of Investigation for a search of the bureau's records. After receiving results  
633 of the Georgia Crime Information Center's technical searches and the Federal Bureau of  
634 Investigation's search of its records, the department shall determine whether the applicant  
635 may be issued a certificate in accordance with subsection (d) of this Code section.

636 (d) The department shall not issue a certificate of fitness for sports betting affiliation to  
637 any person who has been convicted of, has been found guilty of, or has pled guilty to,  
638 regardless of adjudication and in any jurisdiction, any felony or any misdemeanor that is  
639 directly related to gambling, dishonesty, theft, or fraud.

640 50-28-31.

641 Any person who knowingly provides false information in submitting any application for  
642 licensure or employment under this chapter commits the offense of false swearing within  
643 the meaning of Code Section 16-10-71.

644 50-28-32.

645 (a) A commissioner shall not initiate or consider ex parte communication concerning the  
646 merits, threat, or offer of reward in any proceeding that is pending before the commission.  
647 No individual shall discuss ex parte with a commissioner the merits, threat, or offer of  
648 reward regarding any issue in a proceeding that is pending before the commission. This  
649 subsection shall not apply to employees of the corporation that were hired or appointed by  
650 the commission.

651 (b) If a commissioner knowingly receives an ex parte communication relative to a  
652 proceeding to which the commissioner is assigned, the commissioner shall place on the  
653 record of the proceeding copies of all written communications received, all written  
654 responses to the communications, and a memorandum stating the substance of all oral  
655 communications received and all oral responses made, and shall give written notice to all  
656 parties to the communication that such matters have been placed on the record. Any party  
657 that desires to respond to an ex parte communication may do so and the response shall be  
658 received by the commission within ten days after receiving notice that the ex parte  
659 communication has been placed on the record. The commissioner may, if deemed by such  
660 commissioner to be necessary to eliminate the effect of an ex parte communication,  
661 withdraw from the proceeding, in which case the chairperson shall substitute another  
662 commissioner for the proceeding.

663 (c) Any individual who makes an ex parte communication shall submit to the commission  
664 a written statement describing the nature of such communication, to include the name of  
665 the person making the communication, the name of the commissioner or commissioners  
666 receiving the communication, copies of all written communications made, all written  
667 responses to such communications, and a memorandum stating the substance of all oral  
668 communications received and all oral responses made. The commission shall place on the  
669 record of a proceeding all such communications.

670 (d) Any commissioner who knowingly fails to place on the record any such  
671 communications in violation of this Code section within 15 days after the date of such  
672 communication is subject to removal and may be assessed a civil penalty not to  
673 exceed \$5,000.00.

674 (e)(1) It shall be the duty of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign  
675 Finance Commission to receive and investigate sworn complaints of violations of this  
676 Code section.

677 (2) The Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission shall  
678 accept and investigate any alleged violations of this Code section. For any investigation  
679 of alleged violations, the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance  
680 Commission shall provide the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the  
681 House of Representatives with a report of its findings and recommendations. The  
682 Governor is authorized to enforce recommendations of the Georgia Government  
683 Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, and to remove from office any  
684 commissioner who is found by the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign  
685 Finance Commission to have willfully and knowingly violated this Code section. The  
686 Governor shall remove from office any commissioner who is found by the Georgia  
687 Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission to have willfully and  
688 knowingly violated this Code section after a previous finding by the Georgia Government  
689 Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission that the commissioner willfully and  
690 knowingly violated this Code section in a separate matter.

691 (3) If a commissioner fails or refuses to pay to the Georgia Government Transparency  
692 and Campaign Finance Commission any civil penalty assessed pursuant to this  
693 subsection, the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission  
694 may bring an action in any state court to enforce such penalty.

695 (4) If, during the course of an investigation by the Georgia Government Transparency  
696 and Campaign Finance Commission into an alleged violation of this Code section,

697 allegations are made as to the identity of the person who participated in the ex parte  
698 communication, such identified person shall be given notice and an opportunity to  
699 participate in the investigation and relevant proceedings to present a defense. If the  
700 Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission determines that  
701 such identified person participated in the ex parte communication, the person shall not  
702 appear before the commission or otherwise represent anyone before the commission for  
703 a period of two years.

704 Part 2

705 50-28-40.

706 (a) Any person offering, operating, or managing sports betting, including retail sports  
707 betting, in this state shall be licensed by the commission.

708 (b) The commission shall issue licenses to qualified applicants able to meet the duties of  
709 a license holder under this chapter and that the commission determines will be best able to  
710 maximize revenues for the state.

711 (c) An applicant for a license shall submit an application on a form in such manner and in  
712 accordance with such requirements as may be prescribed by rules and regulations of the  
713 commission. Such rules and regulations shall require, at a minimum, that the application  
714 include the following:

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

717 (2) Evidence of the applicant's certificate of fitness for sports betting affiliation. If the  
718 applicant is an entity, such evidence shall be provided for every individual who is a  
719 principal owner;

720 (3) Information, documentation, and assurances as may be required by the commission  
721 to establish by clear and convincing evidence the applicant's good character, honesty, and

722 integrity, including, but not limited to, information pertaining to family, habits, character,  
723 reputation, criminal and arrest records, business activities, financial affairs, and business,  
724 professional, and personal associates, covering at least the ten-year period immediately  
725 preceding the filing of the application;

726 (4) Notice and a description of civil judgments obtained against the applicant pertaining  
727 to antitrust or security regulation laws of the federal government, this state, or any other  
728 state, jurisdiction, province, or country;

729 (5) To the extent available, letters of reference or the equivalent from law enforcement  
730 agencies having jurisdiction of the applicant's place of residence and principal place of  
731 business. Each such letter of reference shall indicate that the law enforcement agency  
732 does not have any pertinent information concerning the applicant or, if such law  
733 enforcement agency does have information pertaining to the applicant, shall provide such  
734 information;

735 (6) If the applicant has conducted sports betting operations in another jurisdiction, a  
736 letter of reference from the regulatory body that governs sports betting that specifies the  
737 standing of the applicant with such regulatory body; provided, however, that, if no such  
738 letter is received within 60 days of the request therefor, the applicant may submit a  
739 statement under oath that the applicant is or was, during the period such activities were  
740 conducted, in good standing with the regulatory body;

741 (7) Information, documentation, and assurances concerning financial background and  
742 resources as may be required to establish by clear and convincing evidence the financial  
743 stability, integrity, and responsibility of the applicant, including, but not limited to, bank  
744 references, business and personal income and disbursement schedules, tax returns and  
745 other reports filed with governmental agencies, and business and personal accounting and  
746 check records and ledgers. Each applicant shall, in writing, authorize the examination of  
747 all bank accounts and records as may be deemed necessary by the commission. The  
748 commission may consider any relevant evidence of financial stability. The applicant

749 shall be presumed to be financially stable if the applicant establishes by clear and  
750 convincing evidence the ability to:

751 (A) Assure the financial integrity of sports betting operations by the maintenance of  
752 a reserve of not less than \$500,000.00 or the amount required to cover the outstanding  
753 liabilities for wagers accepted by the licensee, whichever is greater. Such reserve may  
754 take the form of a bond, an irrevocable letter of credit, payment processor reserves and  
755 receivables, cash or cash equivalents segregated from operational funds, or a  
756 combination thereof. Such reserve shall be adequate to pay winning wagers to bettors  
757 when due. An applicant is presumed to have met this standard if the applicant  
758 maintains, on a daily basis, a minimum reserve in an amount which is at least equal to  
759 the average daily minimum reserve, calculated on a monthly basis, for the  
760 corresponding month in the previous year;

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

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

764 (8) Information, documentation, and assurances as may be required to establish by clear  
765 and convincing evidence that the applicant has sufficient business ability and sports  
766 betting experience to establish the likelihood of the creation and maintenance of  
767 successful, efficient sports betting operations in this state;

768 (9) Information, as required by rules and regulations of the commission, regarding the  
769 financial standing of the applicant, including, without limitation, each person or entity  
770 that has provided loans or financing to the applicant;

771 (10) A nonrefundable application fee and licensing fee as follows:

772 (A) Applicants for a Type 1 sports betting license shall pay a nonrefundable  
773 application fee in the amount of \$100,000.00 and an annual licensing fee in the amount  
774 of \$1 million;

775 (B) Applicants for a Type 2 sports betting distributor license shall pay a nonrefundable  
776 application fee in the amount of \$10,000.00 and an annual licensing fee of \$100,000.00;

777 (C) Applicants for a Type 2 sports betting platform license shall pay a nonrefundable  
778 application fee in the amount of \$10,000.00 and an annual licensing fee of \$100,000.00;

779 (D) Applicants for a Type 2 sports betting retail license shall pay a nonrefundable  
780 application fee in the amount of \$500.00 and an annual licensing fee of \$1,000.00; and

781 (E) Applicants for an online sports betting services provider license and applicants for  
782 a sports betting supplier license shall pay a nonrefundable application fee in the amount  
783 of \$10,000.00 and an annual licensing fee of \$100,000.00; and

784 (11) Any additional information, documents, or assurances required by rules and  
785 regulations of the commission.

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

788 50-28-41.

789 (a) A licensee may renew its license by submitting an application on a form in such  
790 manner and in accordance with such requirements as may be prescribed by rules and  
791 regulations of the commission. A licensee shall submit the nonrefundable application fee  
792 prescribed under paragraph (10) of subsection (c) of Code Section 50-28-40 with its  
793 application for license renewal.

794 (b) For each renewal of a license approved under this Code section, the amount of the  
795 application fee shall be credited toward the licensee's annual licensing fee and the licensee  
796 shall remit the balance of the annual fee to the commission upon renewal of its license.

797 (c) Each licensee shall have a continuing duty to promptly inform the commission of any  
798 change in status relating to any information that may disqualify the licensee from holding  
799 a license.

800 (d) All licenses issued under this chapter shall be valid for a term of ten years, unless  
801 suspended or revoked as provided under this chapter.

802 (e) The commission may adopt rules and regulations prescribing the manner in which a  
803 license may be transferred and a fee for a license transfer.

804 (f) A licensee may maintain the bond, letter of credit, or cash reserve at any bank lawfully  
805 operating in this state and the licensee shall be the beneficiary of any interest accrued  
806 thereon.

807 50-28-42.

808 (a) For purposes of this Code section, the term 'corporation vendor' shall have the same  
809 meaning as provided for the term 'vendor' in Code Section 50-27-3.

810 (b) The following persons shall not be eligible to apply for or obtain a license under this  
811 chapter:

812 (1) A member of the board of directors or employee of the Georgia Lottery Corporation  
813 or an employee of a corporation vendor; provided, however, that a corporation vendor as  
814 an entity may be eligible to apply for or obtain a license;

815 (2) A commissioner, employee of the corporation, or an employee of a commission  
816 vendor; provided, however, that a commission vendor as an entity may be eligible to  
817 apply for or obtain a license;

818 (3) A professional sports team or an employee of a professional sports team;

819 (4) An individual or entity that has an ownership interest of 5 percent or more in a  
820 professional sports team or an employee of such individual or entity;

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

823 (6) An individual who is a member or employee of any sports governing body or  
824 sporting events operator or an entity that has an affiliation with any sports governing  
825 body or sporting events operator;

826 (7) An individual or entity with an owner, officer, or director who has been convicted of  
827 a crime of moral turpitude or similar degree as specified in rules and regulations  
828 promulgated by the commission;

829 (8) A person having the ability to directly affect the outcome of a sporting event upon  
830 which the applicant offers sports betting;

831 (9) A trustee or regent of a governing board of a public or private institution of higher  
832 education;

833 (10) An individual prohibited by the rules or regulations of a sports governing body or  
834 sporting events operator of a collegiate sports team, league, or association from  
835 participating in sports betting;

836 (11) A student or an employee of a public or private institution of higher education who  
837 has access to material nonpublic information concerning a student athlete or a sports  
838 team; and

839 (12) Any other category of persons, established by rules and regulations of the  
840 commission, that, if licensed, would negatively affect the integrity of sports betting in this  
841 state.

842 (c) An individual listed in paragraphs (2) through (12) of subsection (b) of this Code  
843 section may hold an ownership interest in an applicant or licensee without disqualifying  
844 the applicant or licensee from obtaining or holding a license; provided, however, that such  
845 an ownership interest of 5 percent or more shall require approval from the commission.  
846 In determining whether such an ownership interest shall be the basis of disqualification, the  
847 commission shall consider whether such interest would negatively affect the integrity of  
848 sports betting in this state and any other factors the commission shall deem relevant.

849 50-28-43.

850 (a) A Type 1 sports betting license authorizes a Type 1 sports betting licensee, or its  
851 designated online sports betting services provider, to offer online sports betting.

852 (b)(1) The commission shall issue no fewer than six Type 1 sports betting licenses to  
853 qualified applicants able to meet the duties of a license holder under this chapter and that  
854 the commission determines will be best able to maximize tax revenue for the state;  
855 provided, however, that, if fewer than six qualified applicants seek Type 1 sports betting  
856 licenses, the commission shall issue as many Type 1 sports betting licenses as there are  
857 qualified applicants, and the absence of six issued Type 1 sports betting licenses shall not  
858 preclude Type 1 sports betting licensees from offering online sports betting. If a Type 1  
859 sports betting license is revoked, expires, or otherwise becomes ineffective, such Type 1  
860 sports betting license shall not be included in the number of Type 1 sports betting licenses  
861 issued.

862 (2) Although six is the minimum number of Type 1 sports betting licenses the  
863 commission shall issue, there is no maximum limitation.

864 (3) One of the Type 1 sports betting licenses issued by the commission shall be issued  
865 to the Georgia Lottery Corporation.

866 (c) A Type 1 sports betting licensee may contract with no more than one online sports  
867 betting services provider to operate online sports betting on behalf of the Type 1 sports  
868 betting licensee.

869 (d) Online sports betting may be offered under any brand that the Type 1 sports betting  
870 licensee or online sports betting services provider licensee chooses, consistent with state  
871 and federal law.

872 (e) No Type 1 sports betting licensee shall offer online sports betting until the commission  
873 has issued a license to at least one online sports betting services provider that has been  
874 awarded a license via the public procurement process as determined by the commission.

875 (f) All applicants for any of the Type 1 sports betting licenses under subsection (b) of this  
876 Code section that have submitted an application within 30 days of the date in which the  
877 commission begins to accept applications for Type 1 sports betting licenses shall be given

878 an equal opportunity to first commence offering, conducting, or operating online sports  
879 betting in this state on the same day as such other applicants.

880 50-28-44.

881 (a) A Type 2 sports betting distributor license authorizes a Type 2 sports betting distributor  
882 licensee to place Type 2 sports betting machines in Type 2 sports betting retail licensees'  
883 places of business that offer retail sports betting on behalf of the commission through one  
884 or more Type 2 sports betting platform licensees; provided, however, that such retail sports  
885 betting shall not include live betting wagers.

886 (b) The commission shall license not less than five nor more than ten qualified applicants  
887 as Type 2 sports betting distributor licensees. The Type 2 sports betting distributor licenses  
888 shall be issued to the Type 2 eligible distributor entities upon meeting the qualification and  
889 suitability criteria applicable to such Type 2 eligible distributor entities established under  
890 rules and regulations of the commission.

891 (c) A Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee shall maintain at least one operational place  
892 of business in this state.

893 (d) Each Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee shall contract with the commission to  
894 operate retail sports betting on behalf of the commission, through one or more Type 2  
895 sports betting platform licensees, in exchange for 80 percent of the proceeds generated  
896 from the retail sports betting conducted on the Type 2 sports betting machines owned by  
897 such Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee.

898 (e) A Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee may offer retail sports betting, through one  
899 or more Type 2 sports betting retail licensees, by using Type 2 sports betting machines  
900 approved by the commission. Such Type 2 sports betting machines shall only offer retail  
901 sports betting and shall not be bona fide coin operated amusement machines.

902 (f) A Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee shall not place more than two Type 2 sports  
903 betting machines at a Type 2 sports betting retail licensee's place of business.

904 (g) A Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee shall contract with one or more Type 2  
905 sports betting platform licensees to offer retail sports betting on its Type 2 sports betting  
906 machines.

907 (h) A Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee may install sports betting equipment on its  
908 Type 2 sports betting machines that allows bettors to place wagers through such machines  
909 using their cellular telephones while on the premises of the Type 2 sports betting retail  
910 licensee.

911 (i) There shall be no limit on the number of Type 2 sports betting platform licenses or  
912 Type 2 sports betting retail licenses.

913 (j) The commission shall adopt rules and regulations that:

914 (1) Prescribe the ratios by which revenue from retail sports betting shall be divided  
915 among Type 2 sports betting distributor licensees, Type 2 sports betting platform  
916 licensees, and Type 2 sports betting retail licensees; and

917 (2) Are reasonable and necessary to effectuate the provisions of this chapter.

918 (k) The commission may adopt rules and regulations that limit sports betting within a  
919 Type 2 sports betting retail licensee's place of business to retail sports betting, so far as  
920 technically practical.

921 50-28-45.

922 (a) An online sports betting services provider shall offer online sports betting only in  
923 accordance with the provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations adopted by the  
924 commission under this chapter.

925 (b) An online sports betting services provider shall obtain a license under this chapter  
926 before offering online sports betting pursuant to a contract with a Type 1 sports betting  
927 licensee. An online sports betting services provider license shall entitle the holder to  
928 contract with no more than one Type 1 sports betting licensee.

929 50-28-46.

930 No licensee shall offer or accept any proposition bet on a collegiate sporting event.

931 50-28-47.

932 If this chapter becomes effective on January 1, 2025, following the ratification of an  
933 amendment to the Constitution of Georgia, any person offering or engaging in sports  
934 betting in this state after January 1, 2025, prior to being licensed by the commission to  
935 offer or engage in such activity shall be prohibited from obtaining a license under this  
936 chapter for a minimum period of two years. The prohibition and penalty provided in this  
937 Code section shall be in addition to any other civil or criminal prohibitions and penalties  
938 as may be provided in this chapter, Title 16, or other provisions of law.

939

Part 3

940 50-28-60.

941 The commission shall prescribe by rules and regulations:

942 (1) The reserves that must be kept by licensees to comply with subparagraph (c)(7)(A)  
943 of Code Section 50-28-40 to pay off bettors;

944 (2) Any insurance requirements for a licensee;

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

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

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

950 (C) Global risk management;

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

- 952 (5) The manner in which periodic financial reports shall be submitted to the commission  
953 from each licensee, including the financial information to be included in the reports;  
954 (6) The type of information deemed to be confidential financial or proprietary  
955 information that is not subject to any reporting requirements under this chapter;  
956 (7) Policies, procedures, and processes designed to mitigate the risk of cheating and  
957 money laundering; and  
958 (8) Any post-employment restrictions necessary to maintain the integrity of sports  
959 betting in this state.

960 Part 4

961 50-28-70.

962 (a) In addition to any other taxes as may be provided by law and except as provided in  
963 paragraph (55) of Code Section 48-8-3, there shall be imposed an annual privilege tax on  
964 the adjusted gross income derived from online sports betting as follows:

965 (1) Twenty-five percent of the adjusted gross income derived from parlay bets,  
966 proposition bets, and live betting wagers; and

967 (2) Twenty percent of the adjusted gross income derived from all other sports betting  
968 wagers.

969 (b) The privilege tax described in subsection (a) of this Code section shall be paid by the  
970 Type 1 sports betting licensee.

971 (c) The privilege tax imposed under this Code section shall be paid monthly by a Type 1  
972 sports betting licensee based on its monthly adjusted gross income for the immediately  
973 preceding calendar month. The privilege tax shall be paid to the commission in accordance  
974 with rules and regulations promulgated by the commission. If the Type 1 sports betting  
975 licensee's adjusted gross income for a month is a negative number, such licensee may carry  
976 over such negative amount to subsequent months.

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

980 50-28-71.

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

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

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

986 (3) Any additional information required by rules and regulations of the commission  
987 deemed in the public interest or necessary to maintain the integrity of sports betting in  
988 this state.

989 (b) A licensee shall promptly report to the commission any information relating to:

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

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

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

996 (d) Upon receiving a report under this Code section or subsection (b) of Code  
997 Section 50-28-111, the commission may conduct a hearing in accordance with Code  
998 Section 50-28-120 to determine whether the licensee remains in compliance with this  
999 chapter.

1000 ARTICLE 31001 Part 11002 50-28-80.1003 (a) A licensee shall not knowingly:1004 (1) Allow a minor to place a wager;1005 (2) Offer, accept, or extend credit to a bettor; provided, however, that promotions and  
1006 promotional credits shall be permitted to be offered and extended to bettors;1007 (3) Target minors in advertising or promotions for sports betting;1008 (4) Offer or accept a proposition bet on a collegiate sporting event;1009 (5) Offer or accept a wager on any event, outcome, or occurrence other than a sporting  
1010 event, including, without limitation, a high school sporting event offered, sponsored, or  
1011 played in connection with a public or private institution that offers education at the  
1012 secondary level; or1013 (6) Accept a wager from an individual who is on the registry created and maintained by  
1014 the commission under subsection (c) of Code Section 50-28-82.1015 (b) A person that knowingly violates this Code section:1016 (1) For a first offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor; and1017 (2) For a second or subsequent offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and  
1018 aggravated nature.1019 50-28-81.1020 (a) Except for those individuals ineligible to place bets under Code Section 50-28-82, an  
1021 individual who is 21 years of age or older and who is physically located in this state may  
1022 place a wager in the manner authorized under this chapter and the rules and regulations of  
1023 the commission.

1024 (b) A licensee shall ensure that all wagers accepted in this state are from qualified bettors  
1025 and in accordance with this chapter and the rules and regulations of the commission.

1026 50-28-82.

1027 (a) The following individuals and categories of individuals shall not, directly or indirectly,  
1028 place a wager on sporting events or online sports betting platforms in this state:

1029 (1) A commissioner or member, officer, or employee of the corporation shall not place  
1030 a wager on any sporting event or platform;

1031 (2) A member, officer, or employee of the Georgia Lottery Corporation shall not place  
1032 a wager on any sporting event or platform;

1033 (3) A commission vendor shall not place a wager on any sporting event or platform;

1034 (4) A licensee or principal owner, partner, member of the board of directors, officer, or  
1035 supervisory employee of a licensee shall not place a wager on the licensee's platform;

1036 (5) A vendor of a licensee or any principal owner, partner, member of the board of  
1037 directors, officer, or supervisory employee of a vendor shall not place a wager on the  
1038 licensee's platform;

1039 (6) A contractor, subcontractor, or consultant or any officer or employee of a contractor,  
1040 subcontractor, or consultant of a licensee shall not place a wager on the licensee's  
1041 platform, if such individual is directly involved in the licensee's operation of sports  
1042 betting or the processing of sports betting claims or payments through the licensee's  
1043 platform;

1044 (7) An individual subject to a contract with the commission shall not place a wager on  
1045 any platform, if the contract contains a provision prohibiting the individual from  
1046 participating in sports betting;

1047 (8) An individual with access to material nonpublic information that is known  
1048 exclusively by an individual who is prohibited from placing a wager in this state under

1049 this Code section shall not use any such information to place a wager on any sporting  
1050 event or platform;

1051 (9) An amateur or Olympic athlete shall not place a wager on any sporting event in  
1052 which the athlete participates;

1053 (10) A professional athlete shall not place a wager on any sporting event overseen by  
1054 such athlete's sports governing body or sporting events operator;

1055 (11) An owner or employee of a team, player, umpire, or sports union personnel, or  
1056 employee, referee, coach, or official of a sports governing body or sporting events  
1057 operator shall not place a wager on any sporting event, if the wager is based on a sporting  
1058 event overseen by the individual's sports governing body or sporting events operator;

1059 (12) An individual having the ability to directly affect the outcome of a sporting event  
1060 shall not place a wager on such sporting event;

1061 (13) A trustee or regent of a governing board of a public or private institution of higher  
1062 education shall not place a wager on a collegiate sporting event;

1063 (14) An individual prohibited by the rules or regulations of a sports governing body or  
1064 sporting events operator of a collegiate sports team, league, or association from  
1065 participating in sports betting shall not place a wager on any sporting event to which such  
1066 prohibition applies; and

1067 (15) A student or an employee of a public or private institution of higher education who  
1068 has access to material nonpublic information concerning a student athlete or a sports team  
1069 shall be prohibited from placing a wager on a collegiate sporting event if such  
1070 information is relevant to the outcome of such event.

1071 (b) The commission may prescribe by rules and regulations additional individuals and  
1072 categories of individuals who are prohibited from placing a wager on specified sporting  
1073 events or online sports betting platforms in this state.

1074 (c) The commission shall issue rules and regulations that require periodic reports from  
1075 licensees and the information to be contained therein so that the commission can develop

1076 and maintain a confidential registry of a consolidated list of individuals and categories of  
1077 individuals who are ineligible to place a wager in this state and shall provide the registry  
1078 to each licensee in this state. The commission shall provide each updated registry to the  
1079 licensees as soon as practicable. Each licensee shall maintain the registry provided by the  
1080 commission confidentially. Such registry shall not be considered a record open to the  
1081 public pursuant to Article 4 of Chapter 18 of this title and shall be exempt from such  
1082 provisions.

1083 (d) Any individual who places a wager in violation of this Code section:

1084 (1) For a first offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor;

1085 (2) For a second offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less  
1086 than \$500.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 or shall be imprisoned for not less than one month  
1087 nor more than five months, or both; and

1088 (3) For a third or subsequent offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and  
1089 aggravated nature and shall be fined not less than \$750.00 or shall be imprisoned for not  
1090 less than three months, or both.

1091 50-28-83.

1092 (a) The commission shall by rules and regulations prohibit betting on injuries, penalties,  
1093 or the outcome of player discipline rulings or replay reviews under this chapter that are  
1094 contrary to public policy or unfair to bettors.

1095 (b)(1) A sports governing body or sporting events operator may submit to the  
1096 commission in writing, by providing notice in such form and manner as the commission  
1097 may require, a request to restrict, limit, or prohibit a certain type, form, or category of  
1098 sports betting with respect to its sporting events, if the sports governing body or sporting  
1099 events operator believes that such type, form, or category of sports betting with respect  
1100 to its sporting events may undermine the integrity or perceived integrity of such sports

1101 governing body or sporting events operator or its sporting events. The commission shall  
1102 request comments from sports betting licensees on all such requests it receives.  
1103 (2) After giving due consideration to all comments received, the commission shall, upon  
1104 demonstration of good cause from the requestor that such type, form, or category of  
1105 sports betting is likely to undermine the integrity or perceived integrity of such sports  
1106 governing body or sporting events operator or its sporting events, grant the request. The  
1107 commission shall respond to a request concerning a particular event before the start of the  
1108 event, or if it is not feasible to respond before then, no later than seven days after the  
1109 request is made. If the commission determines that the requestor is more likely than not  
1110 to prevail in successfully demonstrating good cause for its request, the commission may  
1111 provisionally grant the request of the sports governing body or sporting events operator  
1112 until the commission makes a final determination as to whether the requestor has  
1113 demonstrated good cause. Absent such a provisional grant by the commission, sports  
1114 betting licensees may continue to offer sports betting on sporting events that are the  
1115 subject of such a request during the pendency of the commission's consideration of the  
1116 applicable request.

1117 Part 2

1118 50-28-90.

1119 (a) Prior to placing a wager with a licensee via online sports betting or retail sports betting,  
1120 a bettor shall remotely register and establish a master account with the commission and a  
1121 player account with the licensee that is linked to the master account and attest that the  
1122 bettor meets the requirements to place a wager with a licensee in this state. Prior to  
1123 verifying a bettor's identity in accordance with this Code section and that the bettor has  
1124 registered and established a master account with the commission, a Type 1 sports betting  
1125 licensee, or its designated online sports betting services provider, a Type 2 sports betting

1126 platform licensee, or a Type 2 sports betting distributor licensee, as applicable, shall not  
1127 allow the bettor to engage in sports betting, make a deposit, or process a withdrawal via the  
1128 bettor's player account with such licensee. A licensee shall implement commercially and  
1129 technologically reasonable procedures to prevent access to sports betting by minors on its  
1130 online sports betting platforms or its Type 2 sports betting machines. A licensee may use  
1131 information obtained from third parties to verify that an individual is authorized to open  
1132 a player account, place wagers, and make deposits and withdrawals.

1133 (b) Each licensee shall adopt a registration policy to ensure that all bettors utilizing online  
1134 sports betting or retail sports betting are authorized to place a wager with a licensee within  
1135 this state. Such policy shall include, without limitation, commercially reasonable  
1136 mechanisms which shall:

1137 (1) Verify the name and age of the registrant;

1138 (2) Verify that the registrant is not knowingly prohibited from placing a wager under  
1139 Code Section 50-28-82; and

1140 (3) Obtain the following information from the registrant:

1141 (A) Legal name;

1142 (B) Date of birth;

1143 (C) Physical address other than a post office box;

1144 (D) Phone number;

1145 (E) Social security number;

1146 (F) A unique username; and

1147 (G) An active email account.

1148 (c) Each licensee may in its discretion require a bettor to provide the licensee with a signed  
1149 and notarized document attesting that the bettor is qualified to engage in sports betting  
1150 under this chapter as part of the registration policy of the licensee.

1151 (d) A bettor shall not register more than one player account with a licensee, and each  
1152 licensee shall use commercially and technologically reasonable means to ensure that each  
1153 bettor is limited to one player account.

1154 (e) Each licensee, in addition to complying with state and federal law pertaining to the  
1155 protection of the private, personal information of registered bettors, shall use all other  
1156 commercially and technologically reasonable means to protect such information consistent  
1157 with industry standards.

1158 (f) When a bettor's player account with a licensee is created, a bettor may fund the account  
1159 through:

1160 (1) Electronic bank transfer of funds, including such transfers through third parties;

1161 (2) Cash;

1162 (3) Debit cards;

1163 (4) Online and mobile payment systems that support online money transfers; and

1164 (5) Any other method approved by rules and regulations of the commission.

1165 (g)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the total amount a bettor  
1166 shall be permitted to deposit in any 30 day period into such bettor's player account or  
1167 accounts with a licensee or licensees shall not exceed \$2,000.00 in total, unless the bettor  
1168 has self-imposed a restriction of a lesser amount as provided in Code Section 50-28-91  
1169 or the commission has imposed a restriction of a lesser amount pursuant to subparagraph  
1170 (a)(13)(I) of Code Section 50-28-9.

1171 (2) A bettor shall be permitted to deposit more than \$2,000.00 into such bettor's player  
1172 account or accounts with a licensee or licensees in any 30 day period if such bettor:

1173 (A) Has the financial ability to deposit such higher amounts as determined by the  
1174 commission pursuant to rules and regulations designed to protect bettors from the  
1175 consequences of problem gambling;

1176 (B) Has not self-imposed a restriction of a lesser amount as provided in Code  
1177 Section 50-28-91; and

1178 (C) Is not subject to a restriction of a lesser amount imposed by the commission  
1179 pursuant to subparagraph (a)(13)(I) of Code Section 50-28-9.

1180 (h)(1) Each financial transaction with respect to a player account between a bettor and  
1181 a licensee shall be confirmed by email, telephone, text message, or other means agreed  
1182 upon by the account holder. A licensee shall use commercially and technologically  
1183 reasonable means to independently verify the identity of the bettor making a deposit or  
1184 withdrawal.

1185 (2) If a licensee determines that the information provided by a bettor to make a deposit  
1186 or process a withdrawal is inaccurate or incapable of verification or violates the policies  
1187 and procedures of the licensee, the licensee shall, within ten days, require the submission  
1188 of additional information that can be used to verify the identity of such bettor.

1189 (3) If such information is not provided or does not result in verification of the bettor's  
1190 identity, the licensee shall:

1191 (A) Immediately suspend the bettor's player account and shall not allow the bettor to  
1192 place wagers;

1193 (B) Retain any winnings attributable to the bettor;

1194 (C) Refund the balance of deposits made to the player account to the source of such  
1195 deposit or by issuance of a check; and

1196 (D) Suspend the player account.

1197 (i) A licensee shall utilize geolocation or geofencing technology to ensure that sports  
1198 betting is available only to bettors who are physically located in this state. A licensee shall  
1199 maintain in this state the servers it uses to transmit information for purposes of accepting  
1200 wagers on a sporting event placed by bettors located in this state.

1201 (j) Each licensee shall clearly and conspicuously display on its internet website a statement  
1202 indicating that it is illegal for a person under 21 years of age to engage in sports betting in  
1203 this state.

1204 (k) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations for purposes of regulating  
1205 sports betting via online sports betting and retail sports betting.

1206 50-28-91.

1207 (a) Licensees shall allow bettors to restrict themselves from placing wagers with the  
1208 licensee, including limits on the amounts wagered, and take reasonable steps to prevent  
1209 those bettors from placing such wagers. At the request of a bettor, a licensee may share the  
1210 request with the commission for the sole purpose of disseminating the request to other  
1211 licensees.

1212 (b) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations that require a licensee to  
1213 implement responsible sports betting programs that include comprehensive training on  
1214 responding to circumstances in which individuals present signs of problem gambling or a  
1215 betting or gambling disorder.

1216 (c) The commission shall work with national and local organizations to provide services  
1217 for individuals with problem gambling or a betting or gambling disorder and to establish  
1218 prevention initiatives to reduce the number of individuals with problem gambling or a  
1219 betting or gambling disorder, including, but not limited to, utilizing currently established  
1220 programs for problem gambling or betting or gambling disorders.

1221 (d) The commission shall annually generate a report outlining activities with respect to  
1222 problem gambling and betting or gambling disorders, including, but not limited to,  
1223 descriptions of programs, grants, and other resources made available; the number of  
1224 individuals seeking assistance; the number of individuals who reported completing  
1225 programs and therapies; and the rate of recidivism, if known to the commission. The  
1226 commission shall file the annual report with the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and  
1227 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and shall publish such report on its internet  
1228 website no later than January 1 of each year.

1229 50-28-92.

1230 (a) Each licensee shall adopt and adhere to a written, comprehensive policy outlining its  
1231 rules governing the acceptance of wagers and payouts. Such policy and rules shall be  
1232 approved by the commission prior to the acceptance of a wager by a licensee. Such policy  
1233 and rules shall be readily available to a bettor on the licensee's internet website.

1234 (b) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding:

1235 (1) The manner in which a licensee accepts wagers from and issues payouts to bettors,  
1236 including payouts in excess of \$10,000.00; and

1237 (2) Requirements for reporting suspicious wagers.

1238 Part 3

1239 50-28-100.

1240 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, a licensee may use any data  
1241 source for determining the results of any tier 1 sports wager or tier 2 sports wager.

1242 (b)(1) A sports governing body or sporting events operator with headquarters located in  
1243 the United States may notify the commission that it desires licensees to use official league  
1244 data or official event data, respectively, for determining the results of tier 2 sports wagers.

1245 A notification under this subsection shall be made in the form and manner as the  
1246 commission shall require through rules and regulations. The commission shall notify  
1247 each licensee within five days after receipt of such notification from a sports governing  
1248 body or sporting events operator. If a sports governing body or sporting events operator  
1249 does not notify the commission of its desire to supply official league data or official event  
1250 data, a licensee may use any data source for determining the results of any tier 2 wagers  
1251 on sporting events of that sports governing body or sporting events operator.

1252 (2) Within 60 days after the commission notifies each licensee of the desire of a sports  
1253 governing body or sporting events operator to require official league data or official event

1254 data as provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection, each such licensee shall be  
1255 required to use only official league data or official event data, as applicable, to determine  
1256 the results of tier 2 sports wagers on sporting events sanctioned by such sports governing  
1257 body or sporting events operator, except when:

1258 (A) The licensee provides advance notice to all bettors placing tier 2 wagers on a  
1259 particular sporting event that it will not use official league data or official event data,  
1260 as applicable, to determine the results of such tier 2 wagers on the particular sporting  
1261 event;

1262 (B) The sports governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, is  
1263 unable to provide a feed of official league data or official event data to determine the  
1264 results of a particular type of tier 2 sports wager, in which case licensees may use any  
1265 data source for determining the results of the applicable tier 2 sports wager until the  
1266 data feed becomes available on commercially reasonable terms; or

1267 (C) A licensee is able to demonstrate to the commission that the sports governing body  
1268 or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, will not provide a feed of official  
1269 league data or official event data to the licensee on commercially reasonable terms.

1270 (3) The commission may consider the following factors in evaluating whether official  
1271 league data or official event data is being provided by the sports governing body or  
1272 sporting events operator on commercially reasonable terms:

1273 (A) The availability of official league data of a sports governing body or the official  
1274 event data of a sporting events operator on tier 2 sports wagers to a licensee from more  
1275 than one authorized source;

1276 (B) Market information regarding the purchase of comparable data by licensees for the  
1277 purpose of settling sports wagers, for use in this state or other jurisdictions;

1278 (C) The nature and quantity of data, including the quality and complexity of the  
1279 process used for collecting such data; and

1280 (D) The extent to which sports governing bodies or sporting events operators, or  
1281 designees thereof, have made available to licensees the data used to determine the  
1282 results of tier 2 sports wagers.

1283 (4) While the commission is determining whether a feed of official league data or official  
1284 event data has been provided on commercially reasonable terms pursuant to paragraph (3)  
1285 of this subsection, a licensee may use any data source for determining the results of any  
1286 tier 2 sports wagers.

1287 (5) The commission shall make a determination under paragraph (3) of this subsection  
1288 within 120 days after the licensee notifies the commission that it desires to demonstrate  
1289 that the sports governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, will not  
1290 provide a feed of official league data or official event data to such licensee on  
1291 commercially reasonable terms.

1292 ARTICLE 4

1293 Part 1

1294 50-28-110.

1295 Members of the commission or designated employees of the corporation may, during  
1296 normal business hours, enter the premises of any facility of a licensee, or a third party  
1297 utilized by the licensee to operate and conduct business in accordance with this chapter, for  
1298 the purpose of inspecting books and records kept as required by this chapter to ensure that  
1299 the licensee is in compliance with this chapter or to make any other inspection of the  
1300 premises necessary to protect the public interests of this state and its consumers.

1301 50-28-111.

1302 (a) The commission, licensees, commission vendors, and vendors shall use commercially  
1303 reasonable efforts to cooperate with investigations conducted by any sports governing  
1304 body, any sporting events operator, and law enforcement agencies, including, but not  
1305 limited to, using commercially reasonable efforts to provide or facilitate the provision of  
1306 anonymized account level betting information and audio or video files relating to  
1307 individuals placing wagers. All disclosures under this Code section shall be subject to the  
1308 obligation of a sports betting licensee to comply with all federal, state, and local laws and  
1309 rules and regulations relating to privacy and personally identifiable information.

1310 (b) Licensees shall promptly report to the commission any information relating to:

1311 (1) Criminal or disciplinary proceedings commenced against the licensee in connection  
1312 with its operations;

1313 (2) Abnormal betting activity or patterns that may indicate a concern with the integrity  
1314 of a sporting event;

1315 (3) Any potential breach of the internal rules and codes of conduct of a sports governing  
1316 body or sporting events operator pertaining to sports betting to the extent that such rules  
1317 or codes of conduct are provided to the licensee by the sports governing body or sporting  
1318 events operator or are otherwise known to the licensee;

1319 (4) Conduct that corrupts the betting outcome of a sporting event for purposes of  
1320 financial gain, including match fixing; and

1321 (5) Suspicious or illegal betting activities, including cheating, use of funds derived from  
1322 illegal activity, wagers to conceal or launder funds derived from illegal activity, use of  
1323 agents to place wagers, and use of false identification.

1324 (c) Licensees shall as soon as is practicable report any information relating to conduct  
1325 described in paragraphs (2) through (4) of subsection (b) of this Code section to the  
1326 relevant sports governing body or sporting events operator.

1327 (d) Licensees shall use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain, in real time and at the  
1328 account level, anonymized information regarding a bettor; the amount and type of bet; the  
1329 time the bet was placed; the location of the bet, including the internet protocol address if  
1330 applicable; the outcome of the bet; and records of abnormal betting activity. The  
1331 commission may request such information in the form and manner as required by rules and  
1332 regulations of the commission. For purposes of this subsection, the term 'real time' means  
1333 on a commercially reasonable periodic interval.

1334 (e) All records, documents, and information received by the commission pursuant to this  
1335 Code section shall be considered investigative records of a law enforcement agency, shall  
1336 not be subject to Article 4 of Chapter 18 of this title, and shall not be released under any  
1337 condition without the permission of the person providing such records, documents, or  
1338 information.

1339 (f) Nothing in this Code section shall require a sports betting licensee to provide any  
1340 information that is prohibited by federal, state, or local laws or rules and regulations,  
1341 including, without limitation, laws and rules and regulations relating to privacy and  
1342 personally identifiable information.

1343 (g) If a sports governing body or sporting events operator has notified the commission that  
1344 real-time information sharing for wagers placed on its sporting events is necessary and  
1345 desirable and the commission determines it is necessary so as to further the goals of this  
1346 chapter, licensees shall share the same information with the sports governing body or  
1347 sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, with respect to wagers on its sporting  
1348 events. A sports governing body or sporting events operator, or a designee thereof, shall  
1349 only use information received under this subsection for integrity-monitoring purposes and  
1350 shall not use such information for any other purpose. Nothing in this subsection shall  
1351 require a licensee to provide any information that is prohibited by federal, state, or local  
1352 laws, rules, or regulations, including, but not limited to laws, rules, or regulations relating  
1353 to privacy and personally identifiable information.

1354 50-28-112.

1355 The commission shall assist in any investigations by law enforcement to determine  
1356 whether:

1357 (1) A licensee is accepting wagers from minors or other persons ineligible to place  
1358 wagers in this state; and

1359 (2) An individual is unlawfully accepting wagers from another individual without a  
1360 license or at a location in violation of this chapter.

1361 Part 2

1362 50-28-120.

1363 (a) The commission may investigate and conduct a hearing with respect to a licensee upon  
1364 information and belief that the licensee has violated this chapter or upon the receipt of a  
1365 credible complaint from any person that a licensee has violated this chapter. The  
1366 commission shall conduct investigations and hearings in accordance with rules and  
1367 regulations adopted by the commission.

1368 (b) If the commission determines that a licensee has violated any provision of this chapter  
1369 or any rules and regulations of the commission, the commission may suspend, revoke, or  
1370 refuse to renew a license; impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$25,000.00 per  
1371 violation; or both.

1372 (c) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing a schedule of  
1373 administrative fines that may be assessed in accordance with subsection (b) of this Code  
1374 section for each violation of this chapter; provided, however, that, if the commission finds  
1375 that:

1376 (1) A licensee is accepting wagers from minors or other persons ineligible to place  
1377 wagers in this state, the commission shall impose a fine against the licensee as follows:

1378 (A) For a first offense, \$1,000.00;

- 1379 (B) For a second offense, \$2,000.00; and  
1380 (C) For a third or subsequent offense, \$5,000.00; or  
1381 (2) An individual is unlawfully accepting wagers from another individual without a  
1382 license, the commission shall impose a fine against the individual as follows:  
1383 (A) For a first offense, \$10,000.00;  
1384 (B) For a second offense, \$15,000.00; and  
1385 (C) For a third or subsequent offense, \$25,000.00.  
1386 (d) The commission may refer conduct that it reasonably believes is a violation of  
1387 Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 to the appropriate law enforcement agency.  
  
1388 50-28-121.  
1389 (a) Fines assessed under this chapter shall be accounted for separately for use by the  
1390 commission in a manner consistent with rules and regulations of the commission.  
1391 (b) The commission may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the  
1392 production of relevant books, accounts, records, and documents for purposes of carrying  
1393 out its duties under this chapter.  
  
1394 50-28-122.  
1395 (a) A licensee or other individual aggrieved by a final decision or action of the commission  
1396 may appeal such decision or action to the Superior Court of Fulton County.  
1397 (b) The Superior Court of Fulton County shall hear appeals from decisions or actions of  
1398 the commission and, based upon the record of the proceedings before the commission, may  
1399 reverse the decision or action of the commission only if the appellant proves the decision  
1400 or action to be:  
1401 (1) Clearly erroneous;  
1402 (2) Arbitrary and capricious;  
1403 (3) Procured by fraud;

1404 (4) A result of substantial misconduct by the commission; or  
1405 (5) Contrary to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of Georgia, or this  
1406 chapter.  
1407 (c) The Superior Court of Fulton County may remand an appeal to the commission to  
1408 conduct further hearings.

1409 Part 3

1410 50-28-123.

1411 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, to knowingly receive, supply,  
1412 broadcast, display, or otherwise transmit material nonpublic information for the purpose  
1413 of betting on a sporting event or influencing another individual's or entity's wager on a  
1414 sporting event.

1415 (b) This Code section shall not apply to the dissemination of public information as news,  
1416 entertainment, or advertising.

1417 (c) Any person in violation of this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

1418 50-28-124.

1419 (a) Any person that violates any provisions of this chapter shall be liable for a civil penalty  
1420 of not more than \$5,000.00 per violation, not to exceed \$50,000.00 for violations arising  
1421 out of the same transaction or occurrence, which shall accrue to the commission and may  
1422 be recovered in a civil action brought by or on behalf the commission.

1423 (b) The commission may seek and obtain an injunction in a court of competent jurisdiction  
1424 for purposes of enforcing this chapter.

1425 (c) Costs shall not be taxed against the commission or this state for actions brought under  
1426 this chapter.

1427 Part 4

1428 50-28-130.

1429 Bettors shall have certain rights as set forth in this part.

1430 50-28-131.

1431 Bettors shall have the right to access information necessary for making wagers, as well as  
1432 information demonstrating that the licensee's offerings are administered legally and fairly  
1433 in all respects. Such information includes but is not limited to:

1434 (1) The handling of wagers;

1435 (2) The odds and pertinent information used to calculate those odds;

1436 (3) Payout amounts and schedule of payouts;

1437 (4) Systems for reporting suspicions of fraud, such as internal reporting protocols and  
1438 available legal actions;

1439 (5) Prohibition of certain parties with an interest in or ability to affect the outcome of a  
1440 sporting event from betting on such sporting events;

1441 (6) The source of data utilized to determine outcomes of wagers;

1442 (7) Contact information for the licensee;

1443 (8) Resources for problem gambling, expressed in a clear and easily accessible manner;  
1444 and

1445 (9) How to limit amounts of individual or aggregate wagers within specified time periods  
1446 and later deposits into accounts.

1447 50-28-132.

1448 Bettors shall have the right to privacy and protection of their personally identifiable  
1449 information and to the security of their funds and financial activities on sports betting  
1450 platforms.

1451 50-28-133.

1452 Licenses shall provide bettors with easy access to resources about the warning signs and  
 1453 treatment of gambling addictions and shall be proactive in preventing at-risk customers  
 1454 from becoming problem gamblers by implementing responsible gaming programs,  
 1455 trainings, and other practices to help bettors participate responsibly.

1456 50-28-134.

1457 A bettor shall have the right to recourse against a licensee in the event he or she believes  
 1458 a transaction or other interaction has been mishandled. Such recourse is essential to  
 1459 establish the credibility of sports betting and to maintain consumer trust. Bettors shall have  
 1460 the right to seek relief as may be provided in this chapter and by rules and regulations of  
 1461 the corporation. Licenses shall provide a clear, expeditious protocol to address concerns  
 1462 raised by bettors. Reserved."

1463

### **PART III**

1464

#### **SECTION 3-1.**

1465 Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
 1466 relating to gambling, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of Code Section 16-12-20,  
 1467 relating to definitions, as follows:

1468 "(1) 'Bet' means an agreement that, dependent upon chance even though accompanied  
 1469 by some skill, one stands to win or lose something of value. A bet does not include:

1470 (A) Contracts of indemnity or guaranty or life, health, property, or accident insurance;

1471 or

1472 (B) An offer of a prize, award, or compensation to the actual contestants in any bona  
 1473 fide contest for the determination of skill, speed, strength, or endurance or to the owners  
 1474 of animals, vehicles, watercraft, or aircraft entered in such contest; or

1475 (C) Any consideration paid to a person licensed by the Georgia Sports Betting  
1476 Commission under Chapter 28 of Title 50 or an employee, agent, or other person acting  
1477 in furtherance of his or her employment by such licensee on the partial or final result  
1478 of or performance during any professional or intercollegiate sporting event, contest, or  
1479 exhibition that had not begun at the time the consideration was paid."

1480 **SECTION 3-2.**

1481 Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 16-12-27, relating to advertisement  
1482 or solicitation for participation in lotteries, as follows:

1483 "16-12-27.

1484 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or other entity to  
1485 sell, distribute, televise, broadcast, or disseminate any advertisement, television or radio  
1486 commercial, or any book, magazine, periodical, newspaper, or other written or printed  
1487 matter containing an advertisement or solicitation for participation in any lottery declared  
1488 to be unlawful by the laws of this state unless such advertisement, commercial, or  
1489 solicitation contains or includes the words 'void in Georgia' printed or spoken so as to be  
1490 clearly legible or audible to persons viewing or hearing such advertisement, commercial,  
1491 or solicitation.

1492 (b) Any person, partnership, firm, corporation, or other entity violating subsection (a) of  
1493 this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

1494 (c) This Code section shall not apply to any advertisement or solicitation for participation  
1495 in sports betting by any person licensed by the Georgia Sports Betting Commission under  
1496 Chapter 28 of Title 50 that is concerning such licensee's lawful activities."

1497 **SECTION 3-3.**

1498 Said part is further amended by revising Code Section 16-12-28, relating to communicating  
1499 gambling information, as follows:

1500 "16-12-28.

1501 (a) A person who knowingly communicates information as to bets, betting odds, or  
1502 changes in betting odds or who knowingly installs or maintains equipment for the  
1503 transmission or receipt of such information with the intent to further gambling commits the  
1504 offense of communicating gambling information.

1505 (b) A person who commits the offense of communicating gambling information, upon  
1506 conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than  
1507 five years or by a fine not to exceed \$5,000.00, or both.

1508 (c) This Code section shall not apply to the activities of a person licensed by the Georgia  
1509 Sports Betting Commission under Chapter 28 of Title 50 or an employee, agent, or other  
1510 person acting in furtherance of his or her employment by such licensee."

1511 **PART IV**  
1512 **SECTION 4-1.**

1513 Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is  
1514 amended by revising paragraph (55) of Code Section 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from  
1515 state sales and use tax, as follows:

1516 "(55) The sale of lottery tickets authorized by Chapter 27 of Title 50 or wagers  
1517 authorized by Chapter 28 of Title 50;"

1518 **PART V**  
1519 **SECTION 5-1.**

1520 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2025, following the ratification of an  
1521 amendment to the Constitution of Georgia providing for lotteries, bingo games, raffles, sports  
1522 betting, and other forms of betting and gambling; provided, however, to the extent that this

1523 Act conflicts with law in effect at the time of ratification, this Act and such amendment shall  
1524 control, and to the extent such law is not in conflict, the law in effect at the time of  
1525 ratification shall control and shall remain in full force and effect. If such amendment is not  
1526 so ratified, then this Act shall stand automatically repealed.

1527

**SECTION 5-2.**

1528 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.