

LD 16, An Act To Change the Renewal Application Deadline from 6 Months to 60 Days before the Expiration of a License Issued by the Gambling Control Board

SUMMARY

The bill changes the deadline by which a person with a license under [Title 8, chapter 31](#) must file an application for renewal of that license. Under current law, renewal applications are due at least 6 months before the expiration of the current license. Under the bill, renewal applications would be due at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the current license.

The information required in each application for a slot machine-related or casino-related license are set forth in Chapter 2 of the Gambling Control Board's rules (<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/16/chaps16.htm>).

LICENSES AFFECTED

- *Slot machine operator license*
- *Casino operator license*
- *Slot machine distributors*
- *Table game distributors*
- *Gambling Services vendor*
- *Employees of the above licensees*

The licenses listed above must be renewed annually pursuant to [8 M.R.S.A. §1018\(2\)](#).

- *Advance deposit wagering licensees*

ADW licenses must be renewed every 5 years, pursuant to [8 M.R.S.A. §1071\(6\)](#).

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ISSUES RAISED AT PUBLIC HEARING

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

1. Sections [1012\(1\)](#) and [1012-A\(1\)](#) of Title 8 require local approval of “*an application for renewal*” of a slot machine operator license or a casino operator license. The local approval process includes a public hearing, although the hearing may be waived if the applicant has held the license for a period of 5 years without a complaint. These statutes further provide: “If municipal officers or county commissioners, as the case may be, fail to take final action on an application for a renewal of a [the] operator license within 60 days of the filing of an application, *the application is considered approved and ready for action by the board.*” Does the committee want to add language clarifying that this approval process must take place before the application is due to the board under 8 M.R.S.A. §1017(4) (as amended by the bill), to ensure adequate time to complete both processes?
2. Although not an issue created by the bill, [8 M.R.S.A. §1018\(2\)](#) provides: “All licenses issued by the board under this chapter are effective for one year, unless revoked or surrendered pursuant to subchapter 5.” Yet, ADW licenses are effective for 5-year terms pursuant to [8 M.R.S.A. §1071\(6\)](#). Should this conflict be remedied?

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FISCAL IMPACT

Not yet determined