

# Legalization of Sports Betting in West Virginia

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PASSING SB415 DURING THE 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

# WEST VIRGINIA LOTTERY

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The West Virginia Lottery regulates:

- Traditional Lottery Sales
- Limited Video Lottery
- Racetrack Video Lottery
- Racetrack Table Games
- Casino wagering at the Historic Resort Hotel (Greenbrier)
- Sports Wagering at the racetrack casinos and Greenbrier

# West Virginia Legislature

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## State Senate

- 34 Senators
- Senate President is the top ranking member of leadership

## House of Delegates

- 100 Delegates
- Speaker is the top ranking member of leadership

# Strategic Plan

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Began planning in late August 2018

Published specifications for a vendor to conduct a study

October 2018: First meeting with casino representatives and Eilers & Krejcik Gaming

November 2018 – January 2018: Developed legislation while study was underway.

January 2018: Study was published and shared with leadership; Senate Bill and House Bill were introduced.

March 10, 2018: SB415 enacted into law

# Working with Senate and House Leadership

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## Senate Bill 415

SENATORS FERNS, BLAIR, MARONEY, TRUMP, WELD,  
WOELFEL, STOLLINGS, AND TAKUBO, *original sponsors*  
[Passed March 3, 2018; in effect from passage]

## Introduced

## House Bill 4396

(BY REQUEST OF THE WEST VIRGINIA LOTTERY)  
BY DELEGATES ESPINOSA, MOORE, MCGEEHAN,  
WESTFALL, HOUSEHOLDER, STORCH, AMBLER,  
ZATEZALO, BARRETT, BYRD AND NELSON

# Relationships with Legislative Staff



, Photo By Will Price



WV Legislative Photography, Photo By Will Price

# Challenges

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## Anticipated v. Unanticipated

Challenges with Conservative House Leaders (anticipated)

Challenges with proposed amendments and resistance from conservative members (anticipated)

Teachers Strike (Unanticipated) ↗



# Outcome

## SENATE

AT&T LTE 12:54 PM 74%

wwlegislature.gov

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 12:45 PM

### West Virginia Senate Roll Call SB 415

Permitting wagering on certain professional or collegiate sports events authorized as WV Lottery Sports Wagering activities

Yea: 25	Nay: 9	Absent: 0	Excused: 0
Y ARVON	N GAUNCH		Y RUCKER
N AZINGER	Y JEFFRIES		N SMITH
Y BALDWIN	Y KARNES		Y STOLLINGS
N BEACH	Y MANN		Y SWOPE
Y BLAIR	Y MARONEY		N SYPOLT
Y BOLEY	N MAYNARD		Y TAKUBO
Y BOSO	Y OJEDA		Y TRUMP
Y CLEMENTS	Y PALUMBO		Y UNGER
Y CLINE	Y PLYMALE		Y WELD
Y DRENNAN	N PREZIOSO		Y WOELFEL
N FACEMIRE	N ROMANO		Y MR. PRESIDENT
Y FERNS			

3rd Reading  
Effective From Passage

SEQ. NO. 0154. RCS # 154

Tweet link

## HOUSE





# Summary of Lessons Learned

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Be adaptable

Spend time building relationships with members and their staff

Build your team and work together to prevent unnecessary amendments and other opposition.

Use unanticipated challenges to your advantage when possible

Talking points for committees and on the floor

# Questions?

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