The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts Gaming Commission Proposed 205 CMR 101.00 to 117.00: Phase 1 Regulations

Notice of Public Hearing and Public Comment Period

Pursuant to M.G. L. c. 23K, § 3(h), and M.G. L. c. 30A, § 2, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (the "Commission") will hold public hearings on September 10, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, 415 Summer Street – Room 102A, Boston, MA; Springfield Technical Community College, 1 Armory Square – Scibelli Building Auditorium, Springfield, MA and The Conference Center at Massasoit Community College, 770 Crescent Street, Brockton, MA concerning the Commission's proposed promulgation of regulations, 205 CMR 101.00 to 117.00, governing hearings and practice before the Commission; access to and confidentiality of Commission records; the duties, authorities and responsibilities of the Commission's investigation and enforcement bureau; and the first phase of the licensing process for operating a gaming establishment in Massachusetts pursuant to M.G.L. c. 23K, as enacted by Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011 (collectively the "Phase 1 Regulations").

Under M.G.L. c. 23K, the licensing of gaming establishments will proceed in two phases. In Phase 1, the Commission will evaluate the qualifications and suitability of a gaming license applicant, its qualifiers and other persons required to be investigated in connection with the proposed issuance of a license to operate a gaming establishment based, among other things, on an investigation of their "integrity, good character and reputation." M.G.L. c. 23K, §12. In a later Phase 2, the Commission will review an applicant's proposal for a specific gaming establishment based on statutory and regulatory criteria. The proposed Phase 1 Regulations proscribe the contents, process, fees, procedures and standards for the initial Phase 1 qualification stage of the licensing process for gaming licenses. In the future, the Commission will separately promulgate further regulations concerning the second phase of the licensing process for gaming licenses (Phase 2), focusing on the merits of an applicant's proposed gaming establishment and other matters within the Commission's jurisdiction, .

Copies of the proposed Phase 1 Regulations are available at www.mass.gov/gaming and at the Commission's main office at 84 State Street, Suite 720, Boston, MA 02109. Members of the public wishing to attend this public hearing who seek special accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Commission at (617) 979-8400 or janice.reilly@state.ma.us.

The public is also encouraged to submit written comments on the proposed Phase 1 Regulations. Please direct comments to Commissioner James F. McHugh, Massachusetts Gaming Commission, 84 State Street, Suite 720, Boston, MA 02109, james.mchugh@state.ma.us. Comments may also be submitted electronically to mgccomments@state.ma.us with "Phase 1 comments" in the subject line. Written comments must be received by September 10, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.