



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4679

by Rep. Kam Buckner

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

230 ILCS 40/25.5 new

Amends the Video Gaming Act. Requires the Illinois Gaming Board to provide written status updates to each applicant for a license issued under the Act no later than 30, 60, and 90 days after the date the application is deemed complete by the Board. Sets forth information to be included in the written status updates. Provides that if the Board has not issued a final determination approving or denying an application within 365 days after the date the application is deemed complete, the Board shall issue a conditional approval to the applicant unless the delay is attributable to: the applicant's failure to timely provide requested information or documentation; a pending criminal investigation or enforcement action directly involving the applicant; or a written finding by the Board, supported by specific facts, that issuance of a conditional approval would pose a material risk to the public interest or the integrity of video gaming. Provides that a conditional approval authorizes the applicant to proceed with preparatory business activities consistent with licensure but does not authorize operation of video gaming terminals until final approval is issued. Provides that nothing limits the Board's authority to approve, deny, suspend, revoke, or condition a license upon completion of its investigation. Provides that any delay caused by the applicant's failure to timely respond to a written request from the Board tolls the time periods until the requested information is received. Allows the Board to adopt rules to implement the provisions.

LRB104 17813 LNS 31246 b

1 AN ACT concerning gaming.

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

4 Section 5. The Video Gaming Act is amended by adding
5 Section 25.5 as follows:

6 (230 ILCS 40/25.5 new)

7 Sec. 25.5. Licensing transparency, status reporting, and
8 conditional approval.

9 (a) The Board shall provide written status updates to each
10 applicant for a license issued under this Act no later than:

11 (1) 30 days after the date the application is deemed
12 complete by the Board;

13 (2) 60 days after the date the application is deemed
14 complete by the Board; and

15 (3) 90 days after the date the application is deemed
16 complete by the Board.

17 Each status update shall include, to the extent reasonably
18 available:

19 (i) confirmation of whether the application remains
20 under active review;

21 (ii) identification of any outstanding documents,
22 deficiencies, or investigative items requested from the
23 applicant;

1 (iii) identification of any material issues or
2 concerns flagged by the Board that could affect
3 suitability; and

4 (iv) an estimated time frame for completion of the
5 review.

6 Nothing in this subsection requires disclosure of
7 confidential investigative methods, law enforcement
8 information, or information otherwise protected by law.

9 (b) If the Board has not issued a final determination
10 approving or denying an application within 365 days after the
11 date the application is deemed complete, the Board shall issue
12 a conditional approval to the applicant unless the delay is
13 attributable to:

14 (1) the applicant's failure to timely provide
15 requested information or documentation;

16 (2) a pending criminal investigation or enforcement
17 action directly involving the applicant; or

18 (3) a written finding by the Board, supported by
19 specific facts, that issuance of a conditional approval
20 would pose a material risk to the public interest or the
21 integrity of video gaming.

22 (c) A conditional approval authorizes the applicant to
23 proceed with preparatory business activities consistent with
24 licensure but does not authorize operation of video gaming
25 terminals until final approval is issued. The Board retains
26 the authority to impose reasonable conditions, monitoring

1 requirements, or restrictions necessary to protect the public
2 interest during the conditional approval period.

3 (d) Nothing in this Section limits the Board's authority
4 to approve, deny, suspend, revoke, or condition a license upon
5 completion of its investigation.

6 (e) Any delay caused by the applicant's failure to timely
7 respond to a written request from the Board tolls the time
8 periods established in this Section until the requested
9 information is received.

10 (f) The Board may adopt rules to implement this Section
11 consistent with the timelines and transparency requirements
12 established herein.