

HB 328 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0512

02/08

HOUSE BILL **328**

AN ACT establishing a charitable gaming oversight commission.

SPONSORS: Rep. Ames, Ches. 13; Rep. Ohm, Hills. 10; Rep. Doucette, Rock. 25; Rep. Stringham, Graf. 3; Rep. Haskins, Rock. 11; Rep. Hakken-Phillips, Graf. 12; Rep. Berch, Ches. 6; Rep. Fellows, Graf. 8; Rep. Spilsbury, Sull. 3; Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Lang, Dist 2

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means

ANALYSIS

This bill changes the membership and duties of the charitable gaming oversight commission, and extends it by 10 years.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT establishing a charitable gaming oversight commission.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Racing and Charitable Gaming; Study Commission Established. RSA 284:6-c is repealed and
2 reenacted to read as follows:

3 284:6-c Study Commission Established. There is established a charitable gaming oversight
4 commission.

5 I. Nine voting members of the commission shall be as follows:

6 (a) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority party
7 appointed by the president of the senate and one of whom shall be a member of the minority party,
8 appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

9 (b) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 of whom shall be members of the
10 majority party appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and 2 of whom shall be
11 members of the minority party, appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.
12 One of the members so appointed by the speaker shall be a member of the house ways and means
13 committee.

14 (c) The executive director of the lottery commission, or designee.

15 (d) The attorney general, or designee.

16 II. Six non-voting members of the commission shall be as follows:

17 (a) Four New Hampshire citizens with no financial interest in charitable gaming and no
18 governing board responsibilities for charitable gaming entities shall be selected as follows: one shall
19 be appointed by the president of the senate; one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
20 senate; one shall be appointed by the speaker of the house; and one shall be appointed by the
21 minority leader of the house.

22 (b) Two New Hampshire citizens shall be appointed by the governor, provided that one
23 shall be representative of gaming operators and one shall be representative of charities participating
24 in charitable gaming.

25 (c) Non-voting members shall have no vote in commission matters but shall be eligible to
26 participate in all other commission proceedings.

27 III. Voting and non-voting members of the commission shall serve until replaced by their
28 respective appointing authority, until no longer meeting the conditions on which their original
29 appointment was based, or until resignation.

30 IV. Legislative members shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the
31 duties of the commission.

1 V. The commission shall oversee the implementation of charitable gaming laws, including
2 historical horse race gaming, shall consider the issues identified in the November 1, 2024, final
3 report of the commission to study the effect of recent changes made to charitable gaming laws,
4 including the newly authorized historical horse races established in 2023, 79:583, and shall make
5 from time to time such recommendations for administrative and legislative changes to charitable
6 gaming law and rules as it deems necessary and appropriate, including priority consideration of:

7 (a) Changes needed to address problem gambling.

8 (b) Changes needed to restructure or modify systems for allocating and overseeing the
9 use of funds granted to the state and to charities and gaming operators participating in games of
10 chance and in historical horse race gaming.

11 (c) Changes needed to prevent undue concentration or proliferation of gaming locations,
12 facilities, and ownership, including a municipal option to opt into or out of components of charitable
13 gaming.

14 (d) Changes that would enable the use of so-called slot machines instead of or in
15 addition to historical horse racing machines.

16 (e) In its consideration of the allocation and use of charitable gaming funds and of the
17 risk of undue economic concentration of gaming facilities and locations, the commission shall
18 recommend any changes it deems needed to ensure compliance with Part 2, Article 6-b, of the New
19 Hampshire Constitution relating to the use of lottery funds and Part 1, Article 83, of the New
20 Hampshire Constitution relating to prohibiting monopolies and requiring free and fair competition.

21 V. The voting members of the study commission shall elect a chairperson from among the
22 voting members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house
23 member. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of
24 this section. Five voting members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

25 VI. The commission shall submit a report on or before November 30, 2025, and on or before
26 November 30 each year thereafter, to the general court including findings, recommendations, and
27 any corrective or technical improvements that charitable gaming may require.

28 VII. The commission shall be administratively attached to the lottery commission.

29 2 Study Commission Established; Prospective Repeal. Amend 2023, 79:587 to read as follows:

30 79:587 Effective Date. Section 586 of this act shall take effect July 1, [~~2025~~] **2035**.

31 3 Effective Date.

32 I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect June 30, 2025.

33 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.