

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1637 Session of  
2025

INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, GIRAL, HILL-EVANS, HADDOCK, FLEMING,  
GREEN AND BRIGGS, JUNE 23, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAMING OVERSIGHT, JUNE 23, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in riot, disorderly conduct and  
3 related offenses, further providing for gambling devices,  
4 gambling, etc.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 5513(b) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended and subsection (f) is amended  
9 by adding definitions to read:

10 § 5513. Gambling devices, gambling, etc.

11 \* \* \*

12 (b) Confiscation of gambling devices or slot machines.--Any  
13 gambling device or slot machine possessed or used in violation  
14 of the provisions of subsection (a) shall be seized and  
15 forfeited to the Commonwealth. The forfeiture shall be conducted  
16 in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 5803 (relating to asset  
17 forfeiture), 5805 (relating to forfeiture procedure), 5806  
18 (relating to motion for return of property), 5807 (relating to  
19 restrictions on use), 5807.1 (relating to prohibition on

1 adoptive seizures) and 5808 (relating to exceptions).

2 \* \* \*

3 (f) Definitions.--The following words and phrases when used  
4 in this section shall have the meanings given to them in this  
5 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

6 "Amusement game." Any mechanical, electrical or computerized  
7 contrivance, terminal, machine or other device which, upon  
8 insertion of a coin, currency, ticket, token or similar object  
9 therein, is available to play or operate exclusively for  
10 recreational or amusement purposes and meets the following  
11 criteria:

12 (1) The contrivance, terminal, machine or device does  
13 not offer a cash prize or award or other thing which can be  
14 redeemed for cash.

15 (2) The only prize offered, if any, is a noncash  
16 merchandise prize, the value of which is less than or equal  
17 to the cost of playing the game, or food or drink of de  
18 minimis value.

19 \* \* \*

20 "Slot machine."

21 (1) The term includes:

22 (i) Any mechanical, electrical or computerized  
23 contrivance, terminal, machine or other device which,  
24 upon insertion of a coin, bill, ticket, token or similar  
25 object therein or upon payment of any consideration  
26 whatsoever, including the use of any electronic payment  
27 system, is available to play or operate, the play or  
28 operation of which, whether by reason of skill or  
29 application of the element of chance or both:

30 (A) May deliver or entitle the person or persons

1           playing or operating the contrivance, terminal,  
2           machine or other device to receive cash, billets,  
3           tickets, tokens or electronic credits to be exchanged  
4           for cash or to receive merchandise or anything of  
5           value whatsoever, whether the payoff is made  
6           automatically from the machine or manually.

7           (B) May utilize spinning reels or video displays  
8           or both.

9           (C) May or may not dispense coins, tickets or  
10          tokens to winning patrons.

11          (D) May use an electronic credit system for  
12          receiving wagers and making payouts.

13          (ii) Associated equipment necessary to conduct the  
14          operation of the contrivance, terminal, machine or other  
15          device.

16          (2) The term does not include:

17           (i) A slot machine certified and approved for use by  
18           the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board under 4 Pa.C.S.  
19           (relating to amusements).

20           (ii) An antique slot machine under subsection (c).

21           (iii) An amusement game.

22          Section 2. This act shall take effect in 90 days.