



Montana Legislative Services Division
Office of Research and Policy Analysis

PO BOX 201706
 Helena, MT 59620-1706
 (406) 444-3064
 FAX (406) 444-3036

as of 6/9/2017

2017 Outcomes for Alcohol- or Gambling-enacted Legislation

Bill #	Topic	Short Title
HB 16	Includes Liquor Control Division under monitoring duties of Economic Affairs Interim Committee. Effective 2/13/2017	Gives EAIC oversight for liquor policies
HB 428	Revises the way retail beer licenses are awarded when there are multiple applicants by creating a lottery and installing sideboards that are intended to prevent speculators from gaming the system. HB 428 was designed to prevent someone from entering a lottery for a beer license and then selling it to someone else without ever using the license. A \$25,000 initial fee paid by the lottery winner for a license and annual renewal fees mean the lottery winner must use the license within a year and may not transfer the license for 5 years. Effective 5/3/2017.	Creates lottery process for retail beer licenses and includes sideboards to require winner to use license.
HB 462	Creates new brewing license that allows Flathead Valley Community College and Montana State University-Billings to brew beer and sell at wholesale in conjunction with brewing classes. Effective 5/7/2017	Academic beer-brewing license
HB 541	Expands to 60,000 (from 20,000) barrels the top amount a brewer can produce and still be called a small brewery. Removes a mid-tier tax on 10,000 to 20,000 barrels and taxes all beer produced over 10,000 barrels at \$4.30 a barrel. Limits small brewers to the 60,000 barrels as produced by one or up to 3 affiliated manufacturers at no more than 3 separate locations. Limits on-premises sales to no more than 2,000 barrels whether acting as one or up to 3 affiliated manufacturers. Effective 10/1/2017	Expands small brewery exception production to 60,000 barrels and up to 3 locations.
HB 564	Expands options for sports pool tabs of up to \$100. Keeps overall payout limit of \$2,500. Effective July 1, 2017.	Expands sports pool tab buy-ins
SB 25	Revises gaming laws to allow for raffles by certain financial institutions or as part of a nonprofit organization's fundraiser, including out-of-state sales if authorized by the state in which the purchaser is based. Also, prevents tampering with video gaming machines by exploiting a hardware or software feature. Extends a prohibition on video gambling licenses within 150 feet of an existing gambling operation if the two premises have one or more common owners and operate in an interrelated manner, as defined by department rule. Effective 10/1/2017	Gaming Advisory Council proposal related to fundraising raffles, machine tampering, and colocated operations.
SB 302	Allows cash, check, or debit card to be used in Calcutta pools, as well as raffles, casino nights, and card games as provided in Title 23, chapter 5, part 3.	Includes Calcutta pools as debit option.
SB 344	Revises liquor license financing laws to allow regulated lenders to use liquor licenses as collateral in the same credit and structural terms as other collateral transactions with specific provisions for licensees, borrowers, coborrowers, and guarantors and no ownership interest in the license. Effective 5/4/2017.	Clarifies liquor license collateral potential

