[First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 5943

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 21, 2021

Sponsored by: Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD District 6 (Burlington and Camden) Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO District 2 (Atlantic) Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO District 2 (Atlantic) Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblyman Caputo

SYNOPSIS

Temporarily modifies taxes and credits of casino licensees; permanently redefines promotional gaming credits to include certain coupons and table game wagers; requires priority funding for senior and disabled transportation services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on December 13, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/15/2021)

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AN ACT concerning temporary modifications to the taxes and
 credits of casino licensees, permanent modifications to the types
 of promotional gaming credits, and priority funding for certain
 programs funded from the Casino Revenue Fund, and amending
 P.L.2008, c.12 and P.L.1983, c.578.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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10 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Casino Control 11 Act," P.L.1977, c.110 (C.5:12-1 et seq.), or any law, rule, or 12 regulation to the contrary, the Division of Gaming Enforcement shall calculate the ¹[projected] <u>adjusted</u>¹ taxable revenue for each 13 casino licensee for the 12-month period beginning January ¹<u>1</u>,¹ 14 15 2021 and ending December 31, 2021. ¹[Projected] Adjusted¹ taxable revenue shall be determined by subtracting the amount of 16 17 promotional gaming credits eligible for a deduction pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2008, c.12 (C.5:12-144.2) from the ¹[projected] 18 actual¹ gross revenue of each casino licensee over that 12-month 19 period. The division shall then apply the tax rates set forth in 20 subsection b. of this section to the ¹[projected] adjusted¹ taxable 21 revenue of each casino licensee, and the division shall also apply an 22 23 8 percent tax rate to the taxable gross revenue of each casino 24 licensee. Each casino licensee shall be allowed a credit against the 25 tax imposed under section 144 of P.L.1977, c.110 (C.5:12-144) for 26 the 12-month period following the effective date of this act in an 27 amount representing the difference between the amount calculated by applying an 8 percent tax rate to the ¹[projected] adjusted¹ 28 29 taxable gross revenue of each casino licensee and the amount 30 calculated by applying the tax rates set forth in subsection b. of this 31 section to the ¹[projected] adjusted¹ taxable revenue of each casino licensee. This credit shall be allowed in monthly installments in 32 33 one-twelfth increments.

34 b. The Division of Gaming Enforcement shall calculate the casino win of each casino licensee for the four month period 35 beginning January ¹1,¹ 2021 and ending April 30, 2021 as a 36 37 percentage of the casino win of each casino gaming property for the 38 four month period comprised of January 2020, February 2020, 39 March 2019, and April 2019. For the purposes of the calculation 40 performed pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the rate 41 applicable to a casino licensee shall be as follows:

42 (1) for each casino licensee for which casino win for the four
43 month period beginning January ¹<u>1</u>,¹ 2021 and ending April 30,
44 2021 are at least 50 percent and less than 75 percent of the casino

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 13, 2021.

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win for the four month period comprised of January 2020, February
2020, March 2019, and April 2019, the tax rate used for the
calculation performed pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall
be 6.8 percent; and

5 (2) for each casino licensee for which casino win for the four-6 month period beginning January ¹<u>1</u>, ¹ 2021 and ending April 30, 7 2021 are at least 75 percent and less than 100 percent of the casino 8 win for the ¹[for the]¹ four month period comprised of January 9 2020, February 2020, March 2019, and April 2019, the tax rate used 10 for the calculation performed pursuant to subsection a. of this 11 section shall be 7.4 percent.

12 c. A casino licensee for which casino win for the four-month period beginning January ¹<u>1</u>,¹ 2021 and ending April 30, 2021 are 13 100 percent or more of the casino win for the ¹[for the]¹ four 14 15 month period comprised of January 2020, February 2020, March 16 2019, and April 2019 shall be allowed a credit against the tax 17 imposed under section 144 of P.L.1977, c.110 (C.5:12-144) for the 18 12-month period following the effective date of this act in an 19 amount that is 90 percent of the lowest credit dollar amount allowed 20 to a casino pursuant to the calculation performed under subsection This credit shall be allowed in monthly 21 a. of this section. 22 installments in one-twelfth increments.

d. Each casino licensee allowed a credit under this section shall
submit to the State Treasurer and the Division of Gaming
Enforcement, at the same time that the credit is claimed, a report
documenting that an amount equal to the entire dollar amount
allowed as a credit under this act is being expended by the licensee
for any of the following purposes:

(1) the prompt re-hiring and employment of the casino
licensee's former employees and new applicants, which shall
include a certification by each casino licensee that the licensee has
made a good faith effort to rehire former and new employees
commensurate with an increase in business activity;

34 (2) attracting tourists, gaming, and hospitality patrons to visit35 and stay at the casino hotel property;

36 (3) marketing and promotion for events that would draw visitors
37 to the property or Atlantic City, such as entertainment and
38 conventions; and

39 (4) any other activity deemed by the State Treasurer or the
40 division to be beneficial to the return of pre-emergency economic,
41 gaming, and tourism levels to Atlantic City.

A casino licensee's failure to submit the report required under
this subsection shall deem the licensee ineligible to receive the
credit under this act for each month.

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46 2. Section 1 of P.L.2008, c.12 (C.5:12-38a) is amended to read 47 as follows:

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1 "Promotional gaming credit" - A slot machine credit, sports 1. 2 wagering credit, match play coupon, table game wager coupon, or 3 other item approved by the division that is issued by a licensee to a 4 patron for the purpose of enabling the placement of a wager at a slot 5 machine, a gaming table, or in a sports pool in the licensee's casino or through the licensee's Internet gaming system. No such credit 6 7 shall be reported as a promotional gaming credit unless the casino 8 licensee can establish that the credit was issued by the casino 9 licensee and received from a patron as a wager at a slot machine, a 10 gaming table, or in a sports pool in the licensee's casino or Internet 11 gaming system.

12 (cf: P.L.2018, c.33, s.13)

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14 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2 of P.L.2008, 3. 15 c.12 (C.5:12-144.2), and any other law, rule, or regulation to the 16 contrary, a casino licensee shall be entitled during the 24-month 17 period commencing on the first day of the calendar month following 18 the effective date of this act, P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and ending on the last day of the 24th 19 20 month thereafter to receive a monthly deduction from the gross 21 revenue taxed pursuant to subsection a. of section 144 of P.L.1977, 22 c.110 (C.5:12-144) in an amount equal to the full amount of 23 promotional gaming credits, including match play coupons and 24 table game wager coupons, reported each month by that licensee. 25 The \$90,000,000 threshold specified under section 2 of P.L.2008, 26 c.12 (C.5:12-144.2) shall not apply during the 24-month period 27 specified under this section.

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4. No casino operator shall use funds or savings resulting from
P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) to
repurchase stock or stock options, issue a dividend, or provide for
bonuses for any officer or executive employee.

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34 5. Nothing in this act, P.L. , c. (pending before the 35 Legislature as this bill) shall affect the tax liabilities imposed on 36 any amount received by a casino from casino simulcasting pursuant 37 to the "Casino Simulcasting Act," P.L.1992, c.19 (C.5:12-191 et 38 al.), from Internet gaming pursuant to section 17 of P.L.2013, c.27 39 (C.5:12-95.19), or from sports wagering pursuant to P.L.2018, c.33 40 (C.5:12A-10 et al.).

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42 6. Section 4 of P.L.1983, c.578 (C.27:25-28) is amended to read 43 as follows:

4. a. The board shall establish and administer a program to be
45 known as "The Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident
46 Transportation Assistance Program" for the following purposes:

47 (1) To assist counties to develop and provide accessible feeder48 transportation service to accessible fixed-route transportation

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1 services where such services are available, and accessible local 2 transit service to senior citizens and the disabled, which may 3 include but not be limited to door-to-door service, fixed route 4 service, local fare subsidy, and user-side subsidy, which may 5 include but not be limited to private ride or taxi fare subsidy; and to coordinate the activities of the various participants in this program 6 7 in providing the services to be rendered at the county level and 8 between counties; and

9 (2) To enable the corporation to develop, provide and maintain 10 capital improvements that afford accessibility to fixed route and 11 other transit services in order to make rail cars, rail stations, bus 12 shelters and other bus equipment accessible to senior citizens and 13 the disabled; to render technical information and assistance to 14 counties eligible for assistance under this act; and to coordinate the 15 program within and among counties.

16 In the State fiscal year beginning July 1 following the b. 17 effective date of P.L.2009, c.261 and in each fiscal year thereafter, 18 there shall be appropriated to the corporation from the revenues 19 deposited in the Casino Revenue Fund established pursuant to section 145 of P.L.1977, c.110 (C.5:12-145) a sum equal to 20 21 ¹[8.5%] 8.5 percent¹ of the revenues deposited in the fund during 22 the preceding fiscal year, as determined by the State Treasurer, to 23 effectuate the purposes and provisions of P.L.1983, c.578 (C.27:25-24 25 et seq.).

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule, or 25 regulation to the contrary, for the State Fiscal ¹[Year 2021 and 26 State Fiscal Year J Years¹ 2022¹, 2023, and 2024¹, appropriations 27 to the corporation from the revenues deposited in the Casino 28 Revenue Fund ¹or the Property Tax Relief Fund, as appropriate,¹ 29 30 shall be given priority to ensure that the corporation receives an <u>amount equal to</u> ¹[8.5%] 8.5 percent¹ of the ¹sum of the¹ revenues 31 <u>deposited in the</u> ¹[fund] <u>Casino Revenue Fund</u>¹ <u>during the</u> ¹[State 32 Fiscal Year 2019 preceding fiscal year, adding back any reductions 33 34 in revenues during the preceding fiscal year that directly resulted from the temporary credit allowable under section 1 of P.L., 35 c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or the temporary 36 37 deduction allowable under section 3 of the P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill)¹, as determined by the State 38 39 Treasurer, to effectuate the purposes and provisions of P.L.1983, 40 c.578 (C.27:25-25 et seq.). 41 (cf: P.L.2009, c.261, s.1)

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43 7. This act shall take effect immediately.