

## HB 1002 -- Statewide Video Lottery Terminal Network

Sponsor: Talboy

This bill requires the Missouri Lottery Commission to establish a statewide video lottery terminal network which will be operated and audited through a central computer communications system dedicated and used solely for the operation of the video gaming network. The commission may enter into a contract with a private entity for central computer communications system services.

Application and licensing fees for video lottery terminal manufacturers, distributors, and operators are established. The fees will pay for the administrative expenses of the commission to administer the network. A license will not be granted to any person who has been convicted of a felony, and the commission may suspend or refuse to issue a license to anyone convicted of a gambling-related offense or other specified actions.

The bill specifies the video lottery terminal requirements as well as the licensing requirements for a manufacturer, distributor, or operator of video lottery terminals or equipment. The commission director is to issue a total of three distributor licenses to video lottery terminal vendors. Video lottery terminals must be allowed in all existing lottery establishments, and specified charitable organizations must be allowed to install video lottery terminals and electronic bingo machines. The commission director must contract with licensed operators for the operation of video lottery terminals and the associated equipment for one year at a time.

Video lottery games must only be played during the legal hours of operation of each establishment or the hours deemed appropriate by the commission, and no one younger than 21 years of age is authorized to play a licensed video lottery terminal. Any person who physically tampers with a licensed terminal with the intent to interfere with its proper operation or manipulate the outcome or payoff will be guilty of a class D felony. Any person, firm, corporation, or entity that places in operation or continues to operate a gray area device, as defined in the bill, after the effective date of the bill, for use by members of the public will be guilty of a class D felony.