conduct a certain number of gaming events per year; providing for the conditions under which a gaming event may be conducted; providing for certain criminal penalties; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the conducting of gaming events charitable and other organizations to award certain prizes for certain horse race films; and generally relating to certain carnivals, bazaars, and raffles in Baltimore City.

BY adding to repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 257A 257(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1987 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

257A.

- (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:
- (2) "RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION" MEANS A CHURCH, SYNAGOGUE, OR CONGREGATION OF ANY SECT, ORDER, OR DENOMINATION THAT CONDUCTS REGULAR RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND THAT POSSESSES AN EFFECTIVE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FROM THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE OR AN EFFECTIVE DETERMINATION LETTER OF STATUS UNDER § 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE FROM THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.
- (3) "GAMING EVENT" MEANS AN EVENT AT WHICH 1 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING GAMES OF CHANCE ARE PLAYED:
 - (I) CARD GAME;
 - (II) DICE GAMES;
 - (III) ROULETTE; OR
- (IV) THE RUNNING OF HORSE RACING MOVIES OR FILMS ON WHICH PARI MUTUEL WAGERING IS CONDUCTED.
- (B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN BALTIMORE CITY, A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION MAY NOT CONDUCT MORE THAN 12 GAMING EVENTS PER YEAR.
- (2) BEFORE CONDUCTING A GAMING EVENT UNDER THIS SECTION, A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION SHALL OBTAIN A PERMIT TO CONDUCT THE GAMING EVENT FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF