



New York State Gaming Commission Establishes Regulatory Working Groups For Commercial Casinos

First three workgroups will address problem gambling, disabled accessibility and workforce diversity.

The New York State Gaming Commission will establish three regulatory workgroups regarding commercial casino gambling.

As announced at its January 26, 2015 meeting, the Commission has been working on regulations necessary to govern New York's new casino gambling industry. While staff has developed a framework for the regulatory scheme, the agency is now reaching out to industry stakeholders, interested parties and members of the public who wish to contribute to the rulemaking process.

"Rather than springing a cumulative set of proposed rules upon the industry, the Commission has determined to develop rules by merging topics into manageable portions and establishing informal working groups of interested parties to assist and hone the product," said Commission Executive Director Robert Williams.

Commission staff will undertake a first-draft of proposed set of rules, which will then be circulated to members of the applicable working group. The group and staff will then collaborate (and meet, if necessary) to improve or expand the draft rules and then bring it to the Commission for formal rule proposal – at which time the standard State Administrative Procedures Act (SAPA) requirements would apply.

The Commission will begin this process with the formation of three initial rulemaking workgroups:

Problem Gambling: Responsible gaming has been at the forefront of the Commission's responsibilities. The Commission is seeking to engage industry stakeholders, interested groups and individuals as well as other concerned parties to weigh in on the issue and state response to problem gambling for the purpose of drafting regulations. Participation in this working group is open to all and the Commission will determine, depending on the

level of interest, how and when work will commence. **Interested parties should email problemgamblingwg@gaming.ny.gov.**

Disabled Accessibility: The Commission, in promulgation regulations, seeks to create an inclusive environment that allows for all customers to enjoy the full spectrum of amenities offered by the destination gaming resorts. The Commission is seeking to engage industry stakeholders, interested groups and individuals as well as other concerned parties to weigh in on the issue of access and utilization of commercial casinos by persons with physical disabilities. Participation in this working group is open to all and the Commission will determine, depending on the level of interest, how and when work will commence. **Interested parties should email DisabledAccessWG@gaming.ny.gov.**

Workplace Diversity: As the Upstate New York Gaming Economic Development Act of 2013's mission is to spur economic development and create jobs, an important facet of the legislative intent that these opportunities and benefits be conferred among all New Yorkers. The Commission is seeking to engage industry stakeholders, interested groups and individuals as well as other concerned parties to weigh in on the issue of workplace diversity in gaming facilities. Participation in this working group is open to all and the Commission will determine, depending on the level of interest, how and when work will commence. **Interested parties should email WorkplaceDiversityWG@gaming.ny.gov.**

The Commission will announce the establishment of additional working groups in the near future.

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