## Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

**Bill#:** H.483

**Title:** An Act relative to non-outcome based or performance based wagers

**Sponsor:** Rep. Paul Frost

**Committee:** Economic Development and Emerging Technologies

Hearing Date:

November 13, 2025

Reporting Deadline:

December 17, 2025 (Subject to extensions per House Rule 27)

Prior History: 2023-2024 (HD5225): Referred to House Rules

**Key Terms:** 

Proposition bets are wagers for non-outcome or non-performance based activities and are typically related to events that do not directly affect the outcome of a game or a sporting event.

Sports wager is a wager on a sporting event or a portion of a sporting event.

Wager is a sum of money or thing of value risked on an uncertain occurrence.

Current Law:

Chapter 23N of MGL governs the authorization and regulation of sports wagering.

Section 3 of this chapter provides definitions for various terms related to sports wagering. This section defines sports event or sporting event as a professional sport or athletic event, collegiate sport or athletic event, a collegiate tournament, motor race event, electronic sports event, or other event authorized by the Gaming Commission under Chapter 23N of MGL; provided, however that "sporting event" shall not include high school and youth sports or athletic events; or a collegiate sport or athletic event involving 1 or more collegiate teams from the Commonwealth unless they are involved in a collegiate tournament.

This section also provides a definition for sports wagering that also includes proposition bets. Sports wagering is defined as the business of accepting wagers on sporting events or portions of sporting events, other events, the individual performance statistics of athletes in a sporting event or other events or a combination of any of the same by any system or method of wagering approved by the commission including, but not limited to, mobile applications and other digital platforms; provided, that sports wagering shall not include the acceptance of any wager: (i) with an outcome dependent on the performance of an individual athlete in any collegiate sport or athletic event, including but not limited, to in-game or in-play wagers; (ii) on a high school or youth sporting event; (iii) on injuries, penalties, player discipline or replay review; and provided further, that sports wagering shall not include fantasy contests as defined in section 11M 1/2 of chapter 12. Sports wagering shall include but shall not be limited to, single-game bets, teaser bets, parlays, over-under, moneyline, pools, exchange wagering, in-game wagering, in-play bets, proposition bets and straight bets.

## Summary:

This bill amends the existing definition of sports event or sporting event in section 3 of chapter 23N of MGL, by clarifying what is meant by "other event" authorized by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission that is allowed as part of sports wagering activities. This other event shall include but not be limited to, betting on the result of an official coin toss or the length of a national anthem performance at an athletic event. This new language authorizes the Gaming Commission to set limits on such wagers if it sees fit to do so.

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