

Senate easily OKs sports betting bill

By Leah Burcat

Delaware State News DOVER — It appeared the House of Representatives did the heavy lifting when it came to the sports betting legislation, as the Senate spent little more than half an hour discussing the legislation Tuesday before it passed 17-2.

Although the work was taking place in the House, it does not mean the Senate was not involved, said Senate Majority Leader Sen. Anthony J. DeLuca, D-Wilmington.

“ We don’t operate in a vacuum,” he said.

The Senate was consulted while negotiations were going on in the House, he said.

Some of the senators even waited around at Legislative Hall until the wee hours of Friday morning, when the House finally voted on the legislation.

In the hours leading up to the vote, members of the House of Representatives and the Markell administration debated and discussed specifics of the bill in an effort to devise a compromise. In the end, they met their goal.

The amended legislation most noticeably fast-tracked the process by which the state would introduce table games, as well as reduce the revenue split shift from **8** percent to **6.5**. There is also a caveat which would reduce the split by another percentage point if Harrington Raceway & Casino’s revenue drops below a certain figure.

Seventeen senators believed the compromise to be a fair deal, more than the neces-

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