



Substitute Senate Bill No. 1027

Public Act No. 03-178

AN ACT CONCERNING CHARITABLE BINGO AND SEALED TICKET SALES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 7-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

(i) Prizes offered for the winning of bingo games may consist of cash, merchandise, tickets for any lottery conducted under chapter 226, the value of which shall be the purchase price printed on such tickets, or other personal property. No permittee may offer a prize which exceeds fifty dollars in value, except that (1) a permittee may offer a prize or prizes on any one day of not less than fifty-one dollars nor more than two hundred dollars in value provided the total value of such prizes on any one day does not exceed ~~[four]~~ six hundred dollars, (2) a permittee may offer one or two winner-take-all games or series of games played on any day on which the permittee is allowed to conduct bingo provided ninety per cent of all receipts from the sale of bingo cards for said winner-take-all game or series of games shall be awarded as prizes and provided each prize awarded does not exceed five hundred dollars in value, (3) the holder of a Class A permit may offer ~~[an]~~ two additional ~~[prize]~~ prizes on a weekly basis not to exceed one hundred twenty-five dollars each as a special grand prize and in the event such a special grand prize is not won, the money reserved for such prize ~~[may]~~ shall be added to the money reserved for the next week's special grand prize, provided no such special grand prize may accumulate for more than sixteen weeks or exceed a total of two thousand dollars, and (4) a permittee may award door prizes the aggregate value of which shall not exceed two hundred dollars in value. When more than one player wins on the call of the same number, the designated prize shall be divided equally to the next nearest dollar. If a permittee elects, no winner may receive a prize which amounts to less than ten per cent of the announced prize and in such case the total of such multiple prizes may exceed the statutory limit of such game.

Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 7-169h of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 03-1 of the January 6 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

(c) (1) On and after October 1, 1987, the division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any organization or group specified in subsection (d) of section 7-169 which holds a bingo permit issued in accordance with the provisions of section 7-169. Such permit shall be renewed annually.

(2) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any organization or group specified in subsection (d) of section 7-169 which holds a club permit or nonprofit club permit under the provisions of chapter 545. Such permit shall be renewed annually.

(3) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any organization or group specified in section 7-172 which holds a permit to operate a bazaar, issued in accordance with the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive.

(4) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any charitable, civic, educational, fraternal, veterans' or religious organization, volunteer fire department or grange authorizing such organization to sell sealed tickets in conjunction with any social function or event sponsored or conducted by such organization. Any such organization shall have been organized for not less than two years prior to the date of its application for such permit. Such permit shall be renewed annually.

Sec. 3. Subsections (e) and (f) of section 7-169h of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 03-1 of the January 6 special session, are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of section 53-278b and subsection (d) of section 53-278c, sealed tickets may be sold, offered for sale, displayed or open to public view only (1) during the course of a bingo game conducted in accordance with the provisions of section 7-169 and only at the location at which such bingo game is conducted, (2) on the premises of any such organization or group specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, [or] (3) during the conduct of a bazaar under the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, or (4) in conjunction with any social function or event sponsored or conducted by any such organization specified in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, as amended by this act. Permittees may utilize a mechanical or electronic ticket dispensing machine approved by the division to sell sealed tickets. Sealed tickets shall not be sold to any person less than eighteen years of age. All proceeds from the sale of tickets shall be used for a charitable purpose, as defined in section 21a-190a.

(f) The fee for a permit to sell sealed tickets (1) issued to an organization authorized to conduct bingo under a "Class A" or "Class C" permit or to an organization specified in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, as amended by this act, in conjunction with any social function or event sponsored or conducted by such organization shall be fifty dollars, (2) issued to an organization which holds a club permit or nonprofit club permit under the provisions of chapter 545 shall be seventy-five dollars, and (3) issued to an organization authorized to conduct bingo under a "Class B" permit or an organization which holds a permit to operate a bazaar shall be five dollars per day.

Approved June 26, 2003