

HOUSE BILL REPORT

EHB 2918

As Passed Legislature

Title: An act relating to authorizing bona fide charitable and nonprofit organizations to conduct bingo.

Brief Description: Authorizing certain organizations to conduct bingo.

Sponsors: By Representative Wood.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Commerce & Labor: 2/7/02 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/15/02, 82-16.

Senate Amended.

Passed Senate: 3/7/02, 35-13.

House Concurred.

Passed House: 3/11/02, 71-25.

Passed Legislature.

Brief Summary of Engrossed Bill

- Removes the three-time per week limit on bingo games at a single location.
- Permits currently licensed non-profit bingo operators to share facilities at one location.
- Requires a warning against pathological gambling.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 6 members: Representatives Conway, Chair; Wood, Vice Chair; Clements, Ranking Minority Member; Chandler, Kenney and Lysen.

Staff: Sydney Forrester (786-7120).

Background:

By definition, the game of bingo may be conducted by charitable non-profit organizations

only. A non-profit group may conduct bingo up to three times per week, or it may allow its facility to be used to conduct bingo up to three times per week. No group may conduct bingo at any location where bingo is offered more than three times per week.

Summary of Engrossed Bill:

The three-time per week restriction is lifted for conducting bingo games. A nonprofit organization may conduct bingo more than three times per week and may allow its facility to be used to conduct bingo more than three times per week. Currently, licensed non-profit bingo operators may share facilities at one location. An organization that conducts or allows its facility to be used to conduct bingo more than three times per week must include a warning against pathological gambling in any advertising or promotion of the organization's gambling activities. -

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: None.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: None.