
HOUSE BILL 2317

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Orcutt, Eslick, and Jacobsen

Read first time 01/11/24. Referred to Committee on Regulated Substances & Gaming.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the gross revenue threshold for
2 unlicensed bingo, raffles, and amusement games conducted by
3 charitable or nonprofit organizations; and amending RCW 9.46.0315,
4 9.46.0321, and 9.46.110.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.46.0315 and 2012 c 131 s 1 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organizations
9 organized primarily for purposes other than the conduct of raffles,
10 are hereby authorized to conduct raffles without obtaining a license
11 to do so from the commission when such raffles are held in accordance
12 with all other requirements of this chapter, other applicable laws,
13 and rules of the commission; when gross revenues from all such
14 raffles held by the organization during the calendar year do not
15 exceed (~~five thousand dollars~~) \$15,000; and when tickets to such
16 raffles are sold only to, and winners are determined only from among,
17 the regular members of the organization conducting the raffle. The
18 organization may provide unopened containers of beverages containing
19 alcohol as raffle prizes if the appropriate permit has been obtained
20 from the liquor (~~control~~) and cannabis board(~~(: PROVIDED, That)~~).
21 However, raffles that exceed (~~five thousand dollars~~) \$15,000 may

1 also be conducted pursuant to (~~the provisions of~~) this section if
2 the organization obtains a license from the commission(~~(: PROVIDED~~
3 ~~FURTHER, That the)~~). The term members for this purpose shall mean
4 only those persons who have become members prior to the commencement
5 of the raffle and whose qualification for membership was not
6 dependent upon, or in any way related to, the purchase of a ticket,
7 or tickets, for such raffles.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9.46.0321 and 1987 c 4 s 28 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 Bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organizations
11 organized primarily for purposes other than the conduct of such
12 activities are hereby authorized to conduct bingo, raffles, and
13 amusement games, without obtaining a license to do so from the
14 commission but only when:

15 (1) Such activities are held in accordance with all other
16 requirements of this chapter, other applicable laws, and rules of the
17 commission;

18 (2) Said activities are, alone or in any combination, conducted
19 no more than twice each calendar year and over a period of no more
20 than (~~twelve~~) 12 consecutive days each time, notwithstanding the
21 limitations of RCW 9.46.0205(~~(: PROVIDED, That a)~~). A raffle
22 conducted under this subsection may be conducted for a period longer
23 than (~~twelve~~) 12 days;

24 (3) Only bona fide members of that organization, who are not paid
25 for such services, participate in the management or operation of the
26 activities;

27 (4) Gross revenues to the organization from all the activities
28 together do not exceed (~~five thousand dollars~~) \$15,000 during any
29 calendar year;

30 (5) All revenue therefrom, after deducting the cost of prizes and
31 other expenses of the activity, is devoted solely to the purposes for
32 which the organization qualifies as a bona fide charitable or
33 nonprofit organization;

34 (6) The organization gives notice at least five days in advance
35 of the conduct of any of the activities to the local police agency of
36 the jurisdiction within which the activities are to be conducted of
37 the organization's intent to conduct the activities, the location of
38 the activities, and the date or dates they will be conducted; and

1 (7) The organization conducting the activities maintains records
2 for a period of one year from the date of the event which accurately
3 show at a minimum the gross revenue from each activity, details of
4 the expenses of conducting the activities, and details of the uses to
5 which the gross revenue therefrom is put.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 9.46.110 and 2020 c 70 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The legislative authority of any county, city-county, city,
9 or town, by local law and ordinance, and in accordance with the
10 provisions of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter, may
11 provide for the taxing of any gambling activity authorized by this
12 chapter within its jurisdiction, the tax receipts to go to the
13 county, city-county, city, or town so taxing the activity. Any such
14 tax imposed by a county alone shall not apply to any gambling
15 activity within a city or town located in the county but the tax rate
16 established by a county, if any, shall constitute the tax rate
17 throughout the unincorporated areas of such county.

18 (2) The operation of punchboards and pull-tabs are subject to the
19 following conditions:

20 (a) Chances may only be sold to adults;

21 (b) The price of a single chance may not exceed (~~five dollars~~)
22 \$5;

23 (c) No punchboard or pull-tab license may award as a prize upon a
24 winning number or symbol being drawn the opportunity of taking a
25 chance upon any other punchboard or pull-tab;

26 (d) All prizes available to be won must be described on an
27 information flare. All merchandise prizes must be on display within
28 the immediate area of the premises in which any such punchboard or
29 pull-tab is located. Upon a winning number or symbol being drawn, a
30 merchandise prize must be immediately removed from the display and
31 awarded to the winner. All references to cash or merchandise prizes,
32 with a value over (~~twenty dollars~~) \$20, must be removed immediately
33 from the information flare when won, or such omission shall be deemed
34 a fraud for the purposes of this chapter; and

35 (e) When any person wins money or merchandise from any punchboard
36 or pull-tab over an amount determined by the commission, every
37 licensee shall keep a public record of the award for at least
38 (~~ninety~~) 90 days containing such information as the commission
39 shall deem necessary.

1 (3) (a) Taxation of bingo and raffles shall never be in an amount
2 greater than five percent of the gross receipts from a bingo game or
3 raffle less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes.

4 (b) Taxation of amusement games shall only be in an amount
5 sufficient to pay the actual costs of enforcement of the provisions
6 of this chapter by the county, city or town law enforcement agency
7 and in no event shall such taxation exceed two percent of the gross
8 receipts from the amusement game less the amount awarded as prizes.

9 (c) No tax shall be imposed under the authority of this chapter
10 on bingo or amusement games when such activities or any combination
11 thereof are conducted by any bona fide charitable or nonprofit
12 organization as defined in this chapter, which organization has no
13 paid operating or management personnel and has gross receipts from
14 bingo or amusement games, or a combination thereof, not exceeding
15 (~~five thousand dollars~~) \$15,000 per year, less the amount awarded
16 as cash or merchandise prizes.

17 (d) No tax shall be imposed on the first (~~ten thousand dollars~~)
18 \$15,000 of gross receipts less the amount awarded as cash or
19 merchandise prizes from raffles conducted by any bona fide charitable
20 or nonprofit organization as defined in this chapter.

21 (e) Taxation of punchboards and pull-tabs for bona fide
22 charitable or nonprofit organizations is based on gross receipts from
23 the operation of the games less the amount awarded as cash or
24 merchandise prizes, and shall not exceed a rate of (~~ten~~) 10
25 percent. At the option of the county, city-county, city, or town, the
26 taxation of punchboards and pull-tabs for commercial stimulant
27 operators may be based on gross receipts from the operation of the
28 games, and may not exceed a rate of five percent, or may be based on
29 gross receipts from the operation of the games less the amount
30 awarded as cash or merchandise prizes, and may not exceed a rate of
31 (~~ten~~) 10 percent.

32 (f) Taxation of social card games may not exceed (~~twenty~~) 20
33 percent of the gross revenue from such games.

34 (4) Taxes imposed under this chapter become a lien upon personal
35 and real property used in the gambling activity in the same manner as
36 provided for under RCW 84.60.010. The lien shall attach on the date
37 the tax becomes due and shall relate back and have priority against
38 real and personal property to the same extent as ad valorem taxes.

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