

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 178

BY REPRESENTATIVE MILLER

GAMBLING/CHARITABLE: Provides relative to the regulation of charitable gaming

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:706(A), (B), and (C)(1) and to enact R.S. 4:707(A)(6) and
3 (F)(5), relative to charitable gaming; to provide discretion to the governing authority
4 of each municipality or parish to allow box pools; to provide relative to the adoption
5 of rules, regulations, and ordinances for charitable organizations that hold and
6 operate games of chance; to provide for a specific game of chance; to provide for an
7 exception to licensing and reporting requirements; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 4:706(A), (B), and (C)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted and
10 R.S. 4:707(A)(6) and (F)(5) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §706. Decision whether to permit raffles, bingo, ~~and keno,~~ and box pools

12 A. The governing authority of each such municipality shall decide whether
13 charitable raffles, bingo, ~~and keno,~~ and box pools as provided ~~for~~ in this Chapter
14 shall be permitted within the limits of the municipality. If box pools are permitted
15 pursuant to this Subsection, they shall be subject to the approval of the governing
16 authority of the municipality on an annual basis.

17 B. The governing authority of each parish shall decide whether charitable
18 raffles, bingo, ~~and keno,~~ and box pools as provided ~~for~~ in this Chapter shall be
19 permitted within the parish. If box pools are permitted pursuant to this Subsection,

1 they shall be subject to the approval of the parish governing authority on an annual
2 basis.

3 C.(1) If the local governing authority elects to license and regulate charitable
4 raffles, bingo, ~~and keno,~~ and box pools within its jurisdiction, it may adopt rules,
5 regulations, and ordinances for charitable organizations, as defined in R.S. 4:703(1),
6 to hold and operate games of chance authorized in R.S. 4:707 and to enforce any
7 local provisions regarding said games of chance.

8 * * *

9 §707. Authorization to license certain organizations; exemption; requirement for
10 state license

11 A.

12 * * *

13 (6) The game of chance commonly known as box pools or squares played
14 for prizes where a person is assigned a number on the rows and columns of a
15 ten-by-ten grid to represent the last digit of each team's score, and the prize being
16 won by a person who matches the last number of each team's score at the end of each
17 quarter, inning, or period.

18 * * *

19 F.

20 * * *

21 (5) A charitable organization shall, upon application to the municipality or
22 parish, be exempt from the licensing and reporting requirements provided in R.S.
23 4:708 through 716 for the purpose of conducting box pools as defined in Paragraph
24 (A)(6) of this Section in any municipality or parish of which the governing authority
25 has decided to permit box pools within its limits as provided in R.S. 4:706, provided
26 the municipality or parish finds, upon such application, that the charitable
27 organization is conducting such box pool for the purpose of providing support to
28 community improvement projects and charitable purposes.

29 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 178 Original

2024 Regular Session

Miller

Abstract: Provides relative to a specific game of chance known as box pools.

Present law (R.S. 4:706) provides that the governing authority of each municipality and of each parish shall decide whether to permit charitable raffles, bingo, and keno within its jurisdiction.

Present law provides that a local governing authority that elects to license and regulate charitable raffles, bingo, and keno within its jurisdiction may adopt rules, regulations, and ordinances for charitable organizations to hold and operate games of chance and to enforce any local provisions regarding said games of chance.

Proposed law amends present law to include box pools and provides that if box pools are permitted, they shall be subject to the approval of the governing authority of the municipality or parish on an annual basis.

Present law (R.S. 4:707(A)) provides that the office of charitable gaming may, consistent with the provisions of present law, license charitable organizations to hold and operate the following specific games of chance:

- (1) Raffles.
- (2) Bingo or keno.
- (3) Pull-tabs.
- (4) Electronic video bingo.
- (5) Fund-raising events generally known as "Las Vegas Nights" or "Casino Nights" as provided in present law and as defined by rules of the office.

Proposed law adds to this list the game of chance commonly known as box pools or squares played for prizes where a person is assigned a number on the rows and columns of a 10-by-10 grid to represent the last digit of each team's score, and the prize being won by a person who matches the last number of each team's score at the end of each quarter, inning, or period.

Present law (R.S. 4:707(F)) provides for a listing of entities that are exempt from the licensing and reporting procedures enumerated in present law (R.S. 4:708-716).

Proposed law amends present law to include a charitable organization that conducts box pools as defined in proposed law in any municipality or parish of which the governing authority has decided to permit box pools within its limits, provided the municipality or parish finds, upon such application, that the charitable organization is conducting such box pool for the purpose of providing support to community improvement projects and charitable purposes.

(Amends R.S. 4:706(A), (B), and (C)(1); Adds R.S. 4:707(A)(6) and (F)(5))