
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ashley E. Menou

DIGEST

SB 188 Original

2016 Regular Session

Johns

Present law provides exceptions to the licensing and reporting requirement for certain charitable organizations under certain conditions. Present law exempts charitable organizations from reporting and licensing requirements if, after application to the municipality or parish, it is determined the gaming is done for the purpose of providing support to any elementary or secondary school in the municipality or parish or for other purposes of community support.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that a charitable organization seeking exemption of licensing and reporting requirements because the gaming is for the benefit of a school must submit an application to the Office of Charitable Gaming and, if applicable, the municipality or parish. Present law permits the governing authority of a parish or municipality to permit any charitable licensed organization to conduct progressive or mega jackpot bingo games and establish networks or links between gaming locations.

Proposed law retains present law and allows the Office of Charitable Gaming to also permit organizations to conduct progressive mega jackpot bingo games and utilize electric bingo card dabber devices and related systems to connect gaming locations.

Present law requires a predetermined amount, not to exceed \$200, be deposited by the organization into a special account before each bingo gaming session, and be part of the total amount of prizes awarded during that session.

Proposed law provides that only for a progressive bingo game, a deposit in a predetermined amount, not exceeding \$200, must be deposited into a special account prior to a bingo game and all contributions to a progressive bingo jackpot will not be considered part of the total amount of prizes awarded during the session.

Proposed law allows portions of players' contributions to progressive mega jackpot games to be used for consolation prizes or to contribute to progressive mega jackpot prize pools. Proposed law further provides that such contributions are not to be considered part of the \$4,500 limit established in present law.

Present law requires that progressive bingo games be conducted in compliance with rules and regulations adopted by the municipality or parish which issued the license. Present law also requires the Office of Charitable Gaming to adopt rules and regulations governing progressive bingo games and compliance with the applicable laws.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the Office of Charitable Gaming will also adopt rules and regulations governing progressive bingo games and all progressive bingo, and bingo games be

conducted in accordance with any local rule or regulation and with all rules and regulations adopted by the office.

Present law provides that any licensed charitable organization playing at the same location may conduct progressive blackout bingo games in accordance with rules and:

- (1) Offer a second progressive bingo game.
- (2) May establish a maximum jackpot or cap for each progressive bingo game offered by the organization. Provides that the participating organizations may continue contributions to the Charitable Gaming Progressive Jackpot Account to accumulate a backup jackpot which may be applied to either or both progressive games.
- (3) Must continuously and conspicuously display the dollar amount of each jackpot cap along with the current dollar amount of the progressive jackpot.
- (4) May add to any call bingo game played during a bingo session progressive jackpot game.
- (5) During the course of a progressive jackpot and prior to a jackpot win, may raise but not lower the jackpot cap. Provides that in the event the jackpot cap is raised, contributions in the amount of \$200 per game recommence.

Proposed law deletes requirement that the progressive game be a blackout, but otherwise retains present law.

Present law allows licensed organizations to network or link together to conduct progressive mega jackpot bingo games with authorization from the local governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law and allows licensed organizations to also use an Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Device (EBCDD) and related systems to conduct progressive mega jackpot bingo.

Present law allows for EBCDD to be used for bingo games.

Proposed law allows EBCDD to also be used for progressive bingo and progressive mega jackpot bingo.

Present law defines EBCDD, in part, as an electronic device which will not accept coins, currency, or tokens to activate play.

Proposed law retains present law, and adds that nothing shall prohibit the EBCDD and related systems from tracking a player's account and credits or providing a means for all accounting functions related to bingo, progressive bingo, or progressive mega jackpot bingo.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 4:707(F)(3), 732(A), (B), (C), (D), (E)(intro para), and (G), and 739(A) and (F))