
By: **Delegates Owings and O'Donnell**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2001
Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 17, 2001

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert County - Bingo - Nonprofit Organizations**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing in Calvert County a volunteer fire department or a
4 fraternal, civic, war veterans', religious, or charitable organization or
5 corporation to conduct a charitable bingo event under certain circumstances
6 without first obtaining a permit; authorizing the County Commissioners of
7 Calvert County to adopt certain regulations governing charitable bingo events;
8 and generally relating to bingo in Calvert County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
11 Section 255(i)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

17 255.

18 (i) (1) [In] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (8) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
19 IN Calvert County a volunteer fire company, or bona fide fraternal, civic, war
20 veterans', religious or charitable organization or corporation may conduct or hold any
21 carnival, bazaar, or gaming event in accordance with subsection (b) of this section if
22 the County Commissioners of Calvert County grant a permit that specifies the nature

1 of the gaming device and the frequency with which the carnival, bazaar, or gaming
2 event shall be held.

3 (2) The County Commissioners shall appoint a gambling permit review
4 committee consisting of five regular members and two alternate members.

5 (3) A quorum of the gambling permit review committee consists of three
6 regular members.

7 (4) If fewer than three regular members are present at a meeting, the
8 chairman of the committee may make a quorum by designating for that meeting the
9 required number of alternate members as regular members.

10 (5) An alternate member may participate on the committee only as set
11 forth in paragraph (4) of this subsection.

12 (6) The committee shall be responsible for promulgating regulations,
13 subject to approval by the commissioners, pertaining to gambling activities and the
14 issuance of permits under this subsection.

15 (7) The County Commissioners may charge a reasonable fee for the
16 issuance of the permit.

17 (8) (I) A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OR A FRATERNAL, CIVIC,
18 WAR VETERANS', RELIGIOUS, OR CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION OR CORPORATION MAY
19 CONDUCT A CHARITABLE BINGO EVENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF
20 THIS SECTION WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A PERMIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

21 (II) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS
22 GOVERNING CHARITABLE BINGO EVENTS HELD UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH THAT:

23 1. LIMIT THE HOURS OF OPERATION FOR AN EVENT;

24 2. ESTABLISH THE DAYS ON WHICH AN ORGANIZATION OR
25 CORPORATION MAY HOLD AN EVENT; OR

26 3. LIMIT THE NUMBER OF EVENTS THAT AN ORGANIZATION
27 OR CORPORATION MAY HOLD PER CALENDAR QUARTER.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 2001.

