

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 255
Ways and Means

(Frederick County Delegation)

Judicial Proceedings

Frederick County - Gaming - Raffles

This bill provides that during each calendar year a qualifying organization in Frederick County may hold one raffle in which prize drawings are held on more than a single day, if the major prize has a value of \$5,000 or less. The bill specifies that the restrictions regarding the monetary value of prizes apply to raffles for which prize drawings are held on a single day.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Since organizations apply for gaming permits per year, not per raffle, this bill would not affect the number of permit applications or local revenues from permit fees.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Qualified organizations can conduct gaming events in Frederick County if they receive a permit from the county. The gaming permit is valid for one year after the issuance date, and only members of an organization that holds a gaming permit may conduct the event. Qualified organizations include bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', amateur athletic, patriotic, education, or charitable organizations, as well

as hospitals. Frederick County volunteer fire companies, rescue companies, ambulance companies, or an auxiliary of one of the companies also qualify.

During each calendar year, a qualified organization holding a gaming event may not hold or receive the proceeds from: (1) more than one gaming event in which the major prize has a value of \$5,000 or more; and (2) more than five raffles in which the major prize has a value of \$5,000 or less. A gaming event includes a bazaar, carnival, raffle, tip jar, and punchboard. For raffles in which prize drawings are held on more than a single day, each day on which a prize is drawn is considered one raffle for purposes of gaming permit limits.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Frederick County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2006
ncs/hlb

Analysis by: Amy A. Devadas

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510