

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 938
Ways and Means

(Carroll County Delegation)

Judicial Proceedings

Carroll County - Gaming - Senior Center Site Councils

This bill authorizes senior center site councils in Carroll County to conduct billiards, card games, and bingo in the senior centers five days each week, excluding Sunday. Furthermore, the bill makes provisions for maximum entry fees and the maximum value of prizes that may be awarded. Any money remaining after the prizes are awarded must be distributed to the senior center site council.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill would not affect local revenues since Carroll County does not charge nonprofit organizations any fees for gaming permits.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Before a qualified organization may conduct a gaming event in Carroll County, the organization must obtain a permit from the county commissioners. For the purposes of conducting a gaming event, qualified organizations include a hospital, volunteer fire company, and a bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', amateur athletic, or charitable organization. However, a person may not conduct a card game, dice game, roulette, or casino night.

Before a qualified organization may conduct bingo in Carroll County, the organization must obtain a permit from the county commissioners. For the purposes of conducting bingo, qualified organizations include a volunteer fire company, and a bona fide religious, fraternal, patriotic, educational, or charitable organization. In Carroll County, a permit holder may not award a money prize greater than \$100 to a player of a regular bingo game or \$250 to a player of a special bingo game. However, a permit holder may not award a jackpot exceeding \$1,000 if the jackpot is directly connected with the playing of bingo.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

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

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