

SENATE BILL 572

C7

9lr2194
CF 9lr2196

By: **Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Worcester County – Gaming – Bingo**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing certain fees for bingo conducted in Worcester County;
4 increasing certain maximum prizes offered in bingo; repealing a prohibition
5 against conducting bingo outside a certain area; specifying that a certain game
6 may be played without a prize limit; repealing a prohibition against conducting
7 bingo on Sunday; authorizing a person to advertise in a certain way the location
8 and time of bingo and bingo prizes; and generally relating to bingo conducted in
9 Worcester County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Criminal Law
12 Section 13–2602
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Criminal Law
17 Section 13–2610, 13–2611, and 13–2612
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Criminal Law**

23 13–2602.

24 This subtitle applies only in Worcester County.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 13-2610.

2 (a) An organization or municipal corporation described in § 13-2606 of this
3 subtitle that intends to conduct bingo under this part must obtain:

4 (1) an annual license to conduct bingo for more than 15 days in a year;
5 or

6 (2) a temporary license to conduct bingo for 15 days or fewer in a year.

7 (b) (1) An applicant for a license shall submit to the board an application
8 on the form that the board by regulation requires.

9 (2) The application form shall require:

10 (i) the name of the applicant;

11 (ii) the name of each principal officer of the applicant; and

12 (iii) a certification that no person will conduct bingo except a
13 person who:

14 1. is a salaried employee or bona fide member of the
15 applicant; and

16 2. shall not receive any form of commission or bonus.

17 (c) (1) An applicant shall pay to the board a license fee of:

18 (i) \$100 for an annual license; or

19 (ii) [~~\$3~~] **\$25 IN ADDITION TO \$5** for each day bingo is
20 conducted for a temporary license.

21 (2) The board shall pay to the county commissioners all license fees
22 collected under this part.

23 (d) The board shall issue a license to each applicant who meets the
24 requirements of this part and the regulations adopted under this part.

25 [(e) A license may not be issued to an applicant to conduct bingo outside the
26 election district in which the main office, headquarters, or usual meeting place of the
27 applicant is located.]

28 [(f)] **(E)** If an applicant conducts bingo on premises that are leased by the
29 applicant, the lease agreement must be approved by the board before a license may be
30 issued.

1 [(g)] (F) The board may deny a license to an applicant or suspend or revoke
2 a license if the applicant or licensee has violated this part or any regulation adopted
3 under this part.

4 13-2611.

5 (a) The charge for admission to a place in order to participate in bingo
6 conducted under this part may not exceed [\$1] **\$5**.

7 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the value of
8 a prize in money, merchandise, or services for any one game of bingo conducted under
9 this part may not exceed [\$50] **\$200**.

10 (2) Jackpot prizes may be offered in a maximum amount of [\$1,000]
11 **\$5,000**.

12 (3) **“WINNER TAKE ALL” GAMES MAY BE OFFERED WITHOUT A**
13 **PRIZE LIMIT.**

14 (c) A licensee’s employees and the terms of their employment must be
15 approved by the board before they may conduct bingo under this part.

16 (d) A minor may not be allowed to participate in bingo conducted under this
17 part.

18 [(e) Bingo may not be conducted under this part on Sunday.]

19 [(f)] (E) Bingo may not be conducted under this part in a room or area
20 where alcoholic beverages are sold or served during the game.

21 [(g)] (F) A licensee under this part may not conduct bingo on more than 125
22 days in a year.

23 13-2612.

24 [(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a] **A** person may [not]
25 advertise the location or time of bingo, or the prizes awarded or to be awarded, by:

26 (1) radio, television, or sound systems;

27 (2) billboards, posters, or handbills; or

28 (3) any other means addressed to the public.

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1 [(b) (1) Unless otherwise prohibited by county or municipal law, one sign
2 not exceeding 36 square feet, stating that bingo will be conducted, may be displayed on
3 or adjacent to the premises where bingo will be conducted.

4 (2) In accordance with regulations adopted under § 13-2608 of this
5 subtitle, notice that bingo will be conducted may be posted on a bulletin board or
6 included on a poster inside a hotel, motel, restaurant, or store that is located in the
7 election district in which the game will be conducted.]

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 July 1, 2009.