

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

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Legislative Document

No. 193

H.P. 158

House of Representatives, January 21, 2009

### An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Tournament Games

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Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Augusta.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLANCHARD of Old Town, BLODGETT of Augusta,  
HAYES of Buckfield, NASS of Acton, PENDLETON of Scarborough, RUSSELL of Portland,  
STEVENS of Bangor, TRINWARD of Waterville.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §333-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 610, §2, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Tournament.** The organization licensed to conduct a tournament game under this  
5 section shall display the rules of the game and the license issued to conduct the  
6 tournament. The ~~maximum~~ number of players allowed ~~is 100~~ may not exceed the legal  
7 maximum allowable occupancy for that venue. Winners are determined by a process of  
8 elimination. The use of currency is prohibited as part of tournament play. The maximum  
9 entry fee to play in the tournament is \$100, except the organization may add to the player  
10 entry fee to defray the cost of the license fee, as long as the total additional amount  
11 collected from all players does not exceed \$200. Only one entry fee is permitted per  
12 person. A tournament must be completed within 48 hours. Other games of chance are  
13 prohibited, except for lucky seven or similar sealed tickets.

14 **Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §333-A, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 610, §3, is further  
15 amended to read:

16 **5. Proceeds.** ~~Seventy five percent~~ No less than 75% of the entry fees under  
17 subsection 4 must be paid as prizes to the winners of the tournament.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 Current law limits to 100 the number of players allowed to participate in a  
20 tournament game such as Texas Hold 'em. This bill eliminates the limit of 100 players  
21 and instead provides that the number of players may not exceed the legal maximum  
22 allowable occupancy for that venue.

23 In addition, current law requires that 75% of the entry fees be paid as prizes to the  
24 winners of the tournament. This bill instead provides that no less than 75% of the entry  
25 fees be paid to the winners.