

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 863

Date:

5/20/25 Majority

(Filing No. H-226)

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 549, L.D. 863, "An Act to Exempt Internet Raffles Conducted by Certain Organizations with Prizes of \$2,500 or Less from Registration and Licensing Requirements"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Allow a Person or Organization Conducting a Raffle to Use an Approved Payment Management System'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §1837-C, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 636, §3, is amended to read:  
§1837-C. Raffle entry by payment management system**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Geolocation technology" means a computer program or data collection system that can be used to identify the geographic location of ~~a person~~ an individual interacting with that computer program or data collection system through the Internet.

B. "Payment management system" means a mobile application or other digital platform and the accompanying computer software used to accept payment for a raffle chance or ticket through the Internet.

**2. Use of payment management system.** When conducting a raffle under section 1837-A that is not an Internet raffle, ~~an eligible~~ a person or organization may accept payment for a raffle chance or ticket from a payment management system if:

A. The payment management system is approved by the director under subsection 3;

B. The raffle chance or ticket is purchased by ~~a person~~ an individual who is at least 18 years of age; and

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 C. The raffle chance or ticket is purchased by ~~a person~~ an individual who is physically  
 2 located in the State or another state where the purchase of that raffle chance or ticket  
 3 would be legal under the laws of that state.

4 If the eligible person or organization determines that the purchase of a raffle chance or  
 5 ticket is made in violation of paragraph B or C, the person or organization shall immediately  
 6 refund the payment and void the raffle chance or ticket associated with the purchase.

7 If the eligible person or organization conducts a raffle in which a winner receives a firearm,  
 8 the transfer of that firearm to the winner must be processed through a holder of a federal  
 9 license for a dealer in firearms who is not a dealer in destructive devices under 18 United  
 10 States Code, Section 923(a)(3)(B).

11 ~~An eligible~~ A person or organization that fails to comply with this subsection commits a  
 12 civil violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000.

13 **3. Approval of payment management system.** Upon request from ~~an eligible~~ a  
 14 person or organization, the director may approve a payment management system for use  
 15 by the person or organization in conducting a raffle that is not an Internet raffle only if the  
 16 director determines that the payment management system:

17 A. Does not permit the extension of credit from the eligible person or organization to  
 18 ~~a person~~ an individual who purchases a raffle chance or ticket;

19 B. Does not permit ~~a person~~ an individual to initiate a transaction to purchase a raffle  
 20 chance or ticket and finalize the transaction by providing payment by mail;

21 C. Includes adequate measures to ensure that ~~a person~~ an individual who purchases a  
 22 raffle chance or ticket is at least 18 years of age;

23 D. Includes geolocation technology to determine with a reasonable degree of certainty  
 24 the state in which ~~a person~~ an individual who purchases a raffle chance or ticket is  
 25 physically located at the time the purchase is made and allows ~~an eligible~~ a person or  
 26 organization to prevent ~~a person~~ an individual from purchasing a raffle chance or ticket  
 27 while the ~~person~~ individual is physically located in a state where the purchase of that  
 28 raffle chance or ticket would not be legal under the laws of that state;

29 E. Provides for the immediate refund of any payment to purchase a raffle chance or  
 30 ticket made by ~~a person~~ an individual who the person or organization discovers is under  
 31 18 years of age at the time of purchase or was physically located in a state where the  
 32 raffle being conducted is not legally permitted at the time of purchase;

33 F. Includes adequate measures to protect the privacy and security of payment  
 34 information submitted by ~~persons~~ individuals who purchase raffle chances or tickets  
 35 during the purchase process; and

36 G. Enables the eligible person or organization to satisfy the record-keeping and  
 37 reporting requirements in subsection 6 as well as any other requirements established  
 38 by the Gambling Control Unit by rule.

39 **4. Payment; eligible organization.** A payment management system approved by the  
 40 director under this section may permit the use of a debit card or other payment method that  
 41 ~~the~~ an eligible organization as described in section 1832, subsection 2 uses to accept  
 42 membership dues from out-of-state members and may allow a member of the eligible

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organization to request that payment for a raffle chance or ticket be made using the member's funds already within the possession of the eligible organization.

**5. Guidance for raffle operators.** Upon receipt of a request to approve a payment management system under subsection 3, the director shall provide the eligible person or organization with a guidance document including any information the director determines necessary to assist the eligible person or organization in complying with the requirements of this section.

**6. Record-keeping and reporting requirements.** In addition to the record-keeping requirements under section 1839, an eligible a person or organization that uses a payment management system to conduct a raffle under section 1837-A for which a registration is required shall:

- A. Retain for a period of 3 years an electronic copy of each receipt for the sale of a raffle chance or ticket sold using the payment management system;
- B. Retain for a period of one year a physical copy of each raffle ticket stub generated by the sale of a chance or ticket for a raffle sold using the payment management system;
- C. Maintain raffle ticket stubs retained under paragraph A or B separately for each individual raffle;
- D. Provide receipts for raffle chances or tickets and raffle ticket stubs retained under this subsection to the Gambling Control Unit on request; and
- E. Submit an annual report to the Gambling Control Unit that includes the number of raffles conducted using a payment management system during the year covered by the report and the amount of gross receipts for each of those raffles.

An eligible A person or organization that fails to comply with this subsection commits a civil violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF  
Gambling Control Board Z002**

Initiative: Provides funding for one Office Specialist II position and associated costs:

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$97,159	\$100,613
All Other	\$4,865	\$4,865
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$102,024</b>	<b>\$105,478</b>

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment authorizes a person or organization conducting a raffle that is not an Internet raffle to use a payment management system approved by the Executive Director of the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety for accepting payment for a raffle chance or ticket.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 863****LR 1444(02)**

**An Act to Exempt Internet Raffles Conducted by Certain Organizations with Prizes of \$2,500 or Less  
from Registration and Licensing Requirements**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"**

**Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

**A (H-226)**

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**Fiscal Note**

	<b>FY 2025-26</b>	<b>FY 2026-27</b>	<b>Projections FY 2027-28</b>	<b>Projections FY 2028-29</b>
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$102,024	\$105,478	\$109,185	\$112,837

**Fiscal Detail and Notes**

This bill changes certain requirements regarding the use of payment management systems for raffles that are not internet raffles. The Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety has indicated that the additional administrative requirements of this bill would require additional staffing and resources. The bill includes ongoing Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$102,024 to the GCU beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 for one Office Specialist II position and associated costs.