

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 555

H. P. 504

House of Representatives, February 2, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Masterton of Cape Elizabeth.

Cosponsor: Senator Pierce of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Games of Chance Sponsored by Charitable Organizations.

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

17 MRSA § 341 as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 350, § 13, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 341. Limits on games of chance

1. **Limits.** A licensed game of chance shall be limited as to the amount to be gambled for any one chance to 25¢, except that an organization may operate and conduct a game of cards and charge no more than \$1 daily entry fee for participation in a game of cards, provided that no money or valuable thing other than \$1 daily entry fee is gambled in connection with a game of cards.

2. **Exceptions.** If the licensee operates games of chance less than 3 days per calendar year and contributes 100% of the gross income from those games of chance to charity then those games of chance shall be limited as to the amount which may be gambled to:

- A. \$1 daily entry fee;
- B. 50¢ per game; or
- C. 25¢ per card received.

Prior to play of the game, the licensee shall determine which of the limits in paragraphs A, B or C is to be used and shall post the limit.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is designed to permit charitable organizations such as Lions Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs and Rotary Clubs to sponsor games of chance to earn money for charitable purposes. Due to recent interpretations by the Attorney General's office and the elimination of many slot machines, these charitable organizations have been severely restricted in their ability to raise money. This change will definitely not encourage significant gambling but will allow organizations whose sole purpose is supporting charity to do so.