MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1232

H.P. 918

House of Representatives, February 28, 2001

Millient M. Mac Failand

An Act to Increase the Prize Limit for Games of Chance at Beano Games.

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

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth.

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

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §317, first \P , as amended by PL 1999, c. 74, \S 2, is further amended to read:

The Chief of the State Police has the power to adopt rules, inconsistent with are necessary law, that administration and enforcement of this chapter and for licensing, conduct and operation of the amusement commonly known as "Beano" or "Bingo" and for the permitting and operation of commercial beano halls. The Chief of the State Police has the power and authority to regulate, supervise and exercise general control over the operation of such amusement and commercial beano halls, including, but not limited to, the payment of prizes and the use of equipment. Any rule adopted by the Chief of the State Police concerning the value of prizes that may be awarded must include a provision that no single prize may exceed \$400 in value and that no more than \$1,400 in total "Beano" or "Bingo" prizes may be awarded on any one occasion. In establishing such rules, which are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A, the Chief of the State Police must, in addition to the standards set forth in other provisions of this chapter, use the following standards setting forth conduct, conditions and activity considered undesirable:

Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §324, as amended by PL 1997, c. 373, §8, is further amended to read:

§324. Games of chance at Beano locations

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No-"Beano"--game-may-be-conducted-at-any-location-where-any lettery-er-ether-game-of-chance-is-conducted,-nor-may-any-lettery er-other-game-of-chance-be-conducted-during-the-period-of-ene hour-before-the-conduct-of-any-"Beano"-game-at-the-specific lecation-of-the-"Beano"-game,-except-that-the-following-letteries may-be-conducted-during-the-period-of-one-hour-before-the-conduct of-"Beano"-games.

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A lottery or other game of chance may not be conducted at a location simultaneous with a beano or bingo game.

 State lottery tickets. Lottery tickets issued by the State Liquor and Lottery Commission may be sold when a valid license certificate issued by the commission is properly displayed.

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2. Raffles. Raffle tickets may be sold in accordance with 48 chapter 14. 3. Lucky seven. Lucky seven or similar sealed tickets may be sold when that game of chance is licensed by the Chief of the State Police and when a valid license certificate is properly displayed. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section and section 312, Lucky seven games may be conducted during the period beginning 2 hours before and ending 2 hours after any "Beano" game.

A. Notwithstanding any other rule, Lucky seven or other similar sealed tickets may be sold that have a sale value of \$1 or less.

For purposes of this section, "location" means that location specified in the location permit.

Sec. 3. Standing Advisory Commission. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall create a standing advisory commission consisting of representatives of nonprofit organizations that conduct bingo or beano games or other games of chance, referred to in this section as "nonprofit organizations." The commission shall advocate the interests of nonprofit organizations regarding Department of Public Safety rulings, conflict resolution and other related issues nonprofit organizations may have with the Department of Public Safety.

SUMMARY

This bill removes prizes from games of chance from the \$1,400 prize limit at beano or bingo games, removes the prohibition of conducting most games of chance within one hour of a beano or bingo game and directs the Department of Public Safety to create a standing advisory committee consisting of nonprofit organizations that conduct bingo or beano games or other games of chance to represent the interests of those organizations to the Department of Public Safety.