



## **125th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

**Legislative Document** 

No. 535

H.P. 418

House of Representatives, February 15, 2011

An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to High-stakes Beano

(EMERGENCY)

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

Heath H Puit

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of the Penobscot Nation. Cosponsored by Senator SCHNEIDER of Penobscot and Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, JOHNSON of Greenville, MAKER of Calais, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, WOOD of Sabattus.

- 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
- 3 **Whereas,** all of Maine is facing difficult economic and employment problems, and 4 this is especially true of the federally recognized Indian tribes in Maine; and
  - Whereas, this legislation would provide immediate relief to the tribes in Maine; and

6 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 7 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as 8 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 9 therefore,

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

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11 Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 505, §1, is 12 further amended to read:

13 1-A. Sealed tickets. The Chief of the State Police may also issue to any federally 14 recognized Indian tribe licenses to sell lucky seven or other similar sealed tickets in accordance with section 324-A. The licensee may operate a dispenser to sell the lucky 15 As used in this subsection, "dispenser" means a 16 seven or other similar tickets. 17 mechanical or electrical device or machine that, upon the insertion of money, credit or 18 something of value, dispenses printed lucky seven or other similar tickets. The element 19 of chance must be provided by the ticket itself, not by the dispenser. The licensee may 20 sell sealed tickets at any time. The Chief of the State Police may adopt rules to facilitate the use of dispensers. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical 21 22 rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

23 Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§3, as repealed and replaced by PL 1991, c. 426,
 24 §4, is amended to read:

25 **3.** Operation of games. An Except as restricted in section 312, subsection 3, an 26 organization licensed under this section may operate high-stakes beano games on 27 27 weekends per year, whether or not consecutive. For purposes of this section, a weekend consists of Saturday and the immediately following Sunday at any time. A high-stakes 28 29 beano-game licensed under this section and canceled for any reason may be rescheduled 30 at any time, as long as 5 days prior notice of the new date is given to the Chief of the 31 State Police. Any federally recognized Indian tribe licensed to operate high-stakes beano games under this section may operate high-stakes beano games anywhere in the county of 32 33 that tribe's primary seat of government.

- 34 Sec. 3. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§3-A, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. I, §5 and
  35 affected by Pt. X, §2, is repealed.
- 36 Sec. 4. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2009, c. 534, §1, is further
  37 amended to read:

1 4. Term of license; fees. A license issued under this section is valid for a period of 2 one year. The annual license fee for a high-stakes beano license is \$50,000, except that the annual license fee due in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 is \$25,000 \$15,000. License fees 3 4 may be paid in advance in quarterly installments. All license fees must be paid to the 5 Treasurer of State to be credited to the General Fund. 6 Sec. 5. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§5, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. I, §6 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is amended to read: 7 8 A. Transfer or assign a license issued under this section; or 9 Sec. 6. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§5, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. I, §6 10 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is amended to read: B. Operate or conduct a beano game or high-stakes beano game on the same 11 12 premises on the same date as another licensee; or. Sec. 7. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§5, ¶C, as amended by PL 2009, c. 347, §1, is 13 14 repealed. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this 15 **Emergency** clause. legislation takes effect when approved. 16 17 **SUMMARY** 18 This bill allows federally recognized Indian tribes in Maine licensed to sell sealed tickets to sell the tickets at any time. It also allows the operation of high-stakes beano 19 20 games at any time and anywhere in the county that the Indian tribe has its primary seat of 21 government and it reduces the annual license fee for operating high-stakes beano games to \$15,000. 22