

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 765**

S. P. 275

In Senate, February 17, 1953.

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Dennett of York.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Prohibiting Games of Beano on Sunday and Playing of Game by  
Minors.**

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

**R. S., c. 126, §§ 21-27, repealed and replaced.** Sections 21 to 27, inclusive, of chapter 126 of the revised statutes, as amended, are hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**‘Sec. 21. Definitions. Terms used in sections 21 and 22 shall be construed as follows unless a different meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context:**

I. “Beano” shall mean any game by whatever name called in which a prize is offered to the person first completing a straight line of squares across a placard marked into squares for said purpose.

II. “Charitable organization” shall mean any bona fide religious, charitable, civic, veterans or fraternal organization which shall have been in existence for at least 2 years and is organized under the laws of this state and to which contributions are exempt from federal income tax.

**Sec. 22. License.** The selectmen of a town or the chief of police of any city may issue to any charitable organization within such town or city a license to conduct games of beano on nor more than 5 days in any one

calendar month, provided, however, that such issuing authority may issue to any agricultural fair eligible for benefits under the provisions of section 16 of chapter 27, a license to conduct games of beano during those days the agricultural fair holds its annual bona fide agricultural exhibition, under the following conditions:

I. The license shall authorize games on specified dates at specified times and at a specified location.

II. Such license shall not be transferable.

III. All games conducted by charitable organizations shall be operated by members thereof, and games conducted by agricultural fairs shall be operated by such persons as may be designated or selected by said agricultural fair and the name and address of such persons shall be endorsed upon the back of the license.

IV. The price to be paid for a single card or play under the license shall not exceed 10c.

V. No person under the age of 18 years shall be admitted to any room or hall where said games are being conducted, or shall be permitted to play beano at agricultural fairs, but this section shall not otherwise apply to other games conducted on agricultural fair grounds.

VI. No games of beano shall be played on Sunday.

VII. All prizes, tokens or awards used, given, offered or awarded during, after or in connection with the conduct of any game or series of games conducted, other than at an agricultural fair, in any calendar day shall not exceed the total amount of value of \$800.

VIII. No games shall be conducted prior to 11:00 A. M. or subsequent to 11:00 P. M. of the same day.

IX. The organization conducting any agricultural fair shall not charge any charitable organization greater ground rent, concession or other fees for a location for conducting games of beano than is charged for the same or similar locations for other types of concessions on the fair grounds.'