
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1307 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, COHEN, D. COSTA, DeLUCA, FARRY, GIBBONS,
GOODMAN, KOTIK, MAHONEY, McNEILL, MILLARD, MOUL, SAINATO AND
SCHWEYER, JUNE 8, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAMING OVERSIGHT, JUNE 8, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156),
2 entitled, as amended, "An act providing for the licensing of
3 eligible organizations to conduct games of chance, for the
4 licensing of persons to distribute games of chance, for the
5 registration of manufacturers of games of chance, and for
6 suspensions and revocations of licenses and permits;
7 requiring records; providing for local referendum by
8 electorate; and prescribing penalties," further providing for
9 definitions, for prize limits and for special permits.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. The definition of "games of chance" in section
13 103 of the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as
14 the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, amended November 27,
15 2013 (P.L.1045, No.90) and November 27, 2013 (P.L.1062, No.92),
16 is amended and the section is amended by adding a definition to
17 read:

18 Section 103. Definitions.

19 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
20 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
21 context clearly indicates otherwise:

1 * * *

2 "Card game contest." A card game that is conducted with
3 multiple rounds of play of a specified number of hands for each
4 round and completed within a period not to exceed 24 hours, in
5 which:

6 (1) A player's bet must stay within the minimum and
7 maximum bet allowed at the table.

8 (2) A player is eliminated from the card game so
9 conducted if:

10 (i) the player loses all of the player's chips;

11 (ii) the player does not have enough chips to meet
12 the required minimum bet; or

13 (iii) the player has the fewest chips after a
14 certain number of hands are played.

15 (3) The winner of the card game so conducted is:

16 (i) the last player at the table; or

17 (ii) the player with the most chips after a certain
18 specified number of rounds are played.

19 * * *

20 "Games of chance." Punchboards, daily drawings, weekly
21 drawings, 50/50 drawings, raffles, tavern games, pools, race
22 night games and pull-tabs, as defined in this act, provided that
23 no such game shall be played by or with the assistance of any
24 mechanical or electrical devices or media other than a
25 dispensing machine or passive selection device and further
26 provided that the particular chance taken by any person in any
27 such game shall not be made contingent upon any other occurrence
28 or the winning of any other contest, but shall be determined
29 solely at the discretion of the purchaser. This definition
30 includes card game contests. This definition shall not be

1 construed to authorize any other form of gambling currently
2 prohibited under any provision of 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to crimes
3 and offenses) or authorized under 4 Pa.C.S. (relating to
4 amusements). Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize
5 games commonly known as "slot machines" or "video poker" or
6 other games regulated by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

7 * * *

8 Section 2. Section 302 of the act is amended by adding a
9 subsection to read:

10 Section 302. Prize limits.

11 * * *

12 (j) Card game contest limits.--Notwithstanding any other
13 provision of this act to the contrary, the maximum cash value
14 that may be awarded for any single card game in a card game
15 contest shall be \$500.

16 Section 3. Section 308 of the act, amended February 2, 2012
17 (P.L.7, No.2) and November 27, 2013 (P.L. 1062, No. 92), is
18 amended to read:

19 Section 308. Special permits.

20 (a) Issuance and fee.--

21 (1) The licensing authority shall issue a special permit
22 for each raffle in which the licensed eligible organization
23 proposes to award individual prizes in excess of \$3,000.

24 (2) The licensing authority shall issue a special permit
25 for each card game contest that the licensee proposes to
26 conduct.

27 (3) The licensing authority may establish and collect a
28 fee not to exceed \$25 for the issuance of special permits
29 under this section.

30 (b) Permit application.--

1 (1) Each [special permit] application submitted for a
2 special permit under subsection (a)(1) shall specify the
3 location where the actual drawing will be held, the number of
4 chances to be sold, the price per chance and the prize to be
5 awarded.

6 (2) Each application submitted for a special permit
7 under subsection (a)(2) shall specify the location where the
8 card game contest will be conducted, the number of persons to
9 be admitted for the card game contest and all of the house
10 rules to be used.

11 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.