THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 290 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY WARNER, REESE, DAVANZO, R. BROWN, CIRESI, DIAMOND, GLEIM, HILL-EVANS, JAMES, McNEILL, MILLARD, MIZGORSKI, OWLETT, Pisciottano, ROTHMAN AND STRUZZI, JANUARY 27, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAMING OVERSIGHT, JANUARY 27, 2021

AN ACT

Amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), entitled "An act providing for the licensing of eligible organizations to conduct games of chance, for the licensing of persons to distribute games of chance, for the registration of manufacturers of games of chance, and for suspensions and revocations of licenses and permits; requiring records; providing for local referendum by electorate; and prescribing penalties," in miscellaneous provisions, providing for games of chance operations during COVID-19 disaster emergency.

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

Section 1. The act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 3102. Games of chance operations during COVID-19 disaster emergency.

(a) Operations.—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 307(b.2), during the COVID-19 disaster emergency, a licensed eligible organization may:

(1) conduct or operate games of chance at the licensed
eligible organization's operating site or other authorized
premises or location or via a publicly accessible Internet
website or social media platform; and

(2) accept debit cards, credit cards or other electronic
payment methods for playing games of chance on a publicly
accessible Internet website or social media platform.

(b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the term "COVID-
19 disaster emergency" means the proclamation of disaster
emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at
50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), any renewal of the proclamation
of disaster emergency or any other proclamation of disaster
emergency related to the novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19,
issued by the Governor in accordance with 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c).

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.