



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 411

PRINTERS NO. 1014

PRIME SPONSOR: Klunk

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 411, Printer's Number 1014, amends the act of July 10, 1981 (P.L. 214, No. 67), known as the Bingo Law, further providing for definitions, rules for licensing and operation and penalty.

ANALYSIS:

The legislation amends Section 3 (Definitions) by adding new definitions of "Consolidated entity," "Consolidated volunteer fire company" or "Bona fide consolidated volunteer fire company", and "Predraw bingo." Changes are made to the existing definitions of "Association", "Bingo", and "Bona fide member" to incorporate the newly defined terms.

The two-year waiting licensing requirement will not apply to a bona fide consolidated volunteer fire company if at least one of the fire companies included in the merger or consolidation holds a valid and current bingo license. The consolidated entity may apply for a bingo license immediately upon it being determined and verified to be a bona fide consolidated volunteer fire company.

Section 5 (Rules for licensing and operation) is amended by removing limitations placed on associations located in the county of the second class and allowing a bona fide consolidated volunteer fire company to conduct the game of bingo in two locations in the county.

The bill increases prize limits to \$500 (currently \$250) for any one game of bingo, except jackpot games. Jackpot games will not exceed \$4,000 (currently \$2,000) and no more than \$8,000 (currently \$4,000) in prizes will be awarded in any calendar day. Associations may advertise any prize, its dollar value and any guaranteed prize value.

An association or charitable organization may permit a person who is not a bona fide member of the association or charitable organization and who has not been convicted of a felony or any violation of this act to announce numbers during a game of bingo, so long as the person is approved and under the supervision of the association or charitable organization.

The limitation on playing bingo no more than twice per week is removed and technical changes are made to the penalty provisions reflecting this change.

This legislation will take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Jenny P. Stratton
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 8, 2017

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.