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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1266 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN, BROOKS, MARTIN, ARGALL, MENSCH, AUMENT,  
BARTOLOTTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROWNE, MASTRIANO, SCHWANK,  
BREWSTER, IOVINO, ARNOLD AND LAUGHLIN, AUGUST 18, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,  
AUGUST 18, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156),  
2 entitled "An act providing for the licensing of eligible  
3 organizations to conduct games of chance, for the licensing  
4 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," in games of chance,  
9 providing for games of chance operations during disaster  
10 emergency.

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

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

16 Section 309. Games of chance operations during disaster  
17 emergency.

18 (a) General rule.--Notwithstanding the provisions of section  
19 307(b.2), during a disaster emergency, a licensed eligible  
20 organization may:

21 (1) conduct games of chance through a publicly

1 accessible Internet website, social media platform or mobile  
2 application; and

3 (2) accept electronic payment via credit card, debit  
4 card, mobile electronic payment application or other  
5 electronic payment methods for playing games of chance under  
6 paragraph (1). The licensed eligible organization shall  
7 verify that the purchaser using an electronic payment method:

8 (i) is 18 years of age or older; and

9 (ii) is a resident of this Commonwealth.

10 (b) Prize disbursement.--A winner of a game of chance  
11 conducted under subsection (a) must claim the prize at the  
12 licensed eligible organization's operating site or other  
13 authorized premises. Prize winnings may not be distributed via  
14 United States mail, electronically or via any other messaging  
15 service. Prior to disbursing a prize, a licensed eligible  
16 organization must verify in person the winner's age and  
17 residency as provided under subsection (a) (2).

18 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "disaster  
19 emergency" means the proclamation of disaster emergency issued  
20 by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644  
21 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster  
22 emergency.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.