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 games of chance, providing for games of chance operations during 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 309. Games of chance operations during disaster emergency.

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

(1) conduct games of chance through a publicly...
accessible Internet website, social media platform or mobile application; and

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

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

(ii) is a resident of this Commonwealth.

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

(c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "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), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.