

SENATE BILL NO. 189

BY SENATOR JACKSON AND REPRESENTATIVES WILFORD CARTER, FISHER,
GADBERRY, GAINES, GREEN, JORDAN, LARVADAIN,
MARCELLE, NEWELL AND PIERRE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 4:724(J) and to enact R.S. 4:724(L), (M), and (N), relative to electronic or video bingo; to provide for operation of machines by a licensed distributor if certain criteria are met; to provide for authorized locations; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 4:724(J) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:724(L), (M), and (N), are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§724. Use of electronic or video bingo games

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J.(1) Any license or permit that was issued to any location for the use of electronic bingo machines on or before June 30, 2022, is a bona fide and valid license and permit under Louisiana law.

(2) Any license or permit that was issued to any distributor for the use of electronic video bingo machines on or before June 30, 2022, is a bona fide and valid license and permit under Louisiana law.

~~Any person who is licensed as a distributor shall be permitted to operate electronic video bingo machines which are not in compliance with the provisions of R.S. 4:724(B)(5) if either of the following occurs:~~

~~(a) The licensed distributor has purchased or has entered into a lease agreement approved by the office for the total number of electronic video bingo machines to be placed at a specific location and the electronic video bingo machines have been permitted by the office and placed at a location which has been approved by the office on or prior to August 15, 2008; or~~

~~(b) The licensed distributor has delivered to the office or has sent by certified~~

1 mail an application with the required fees to have electronic video bingo machines
2 permitted, which application has been received, but not approved by the office on or
3 prior to August 15, 2008, and the application includes one of the following:

4 (i) ~~Proof of purchase for the total number of video bingo machines to be~~
5 ~~placed at a specific location.~~

6 (ii) ~~A nonrefundable deposit of a minimum of twenty-five percent of the fair~~
7 ~~market value of the wholesale purchase price of the total number of machines to be~~
8 ~~placed at a specific location.~~

9 (iii) ~~A nonrefundable deposit on a lease agreement which is equivalent in~~
10 ~~value to a minimum of twenty-five percent of the fair market value of the wholesale~~
11 ~~purchase price of the total number of machines to be placed at a specific location.~~

12 (2) ~~Electronic video bingo machines authorized by the provisions of this~~
13 ~~Subsection shall only be placed at one of the following locations:~~

14 (a) ~~A location which has been approved by the office on or prior to August~~
15 ~~15, 2008; or~~

16 (b) ~~A location for which a completed application with the required fees for~~
17 ~~the licensing to conduct charitable gaming at a specific location has been received~~
18 ~~by the office on or prior to August 15, 2008. However, locations which have not~~
19 ~~been approved by the office prior to August 15, 2008, but for which an application~~
20 ~~has been timely filed as provided by this Subparagraph, shall have received final~~
21 ~~approval from the office and must be occupied by August 15, 2009, in order to~~
22 ~~operate electronic video bingo machines which are not in compliance with the~~
23 ~~provisions of R.S. 4:724(B)(5).~~

24 **(3) The office shall not issue any license or permit to any location or to**
25 **any distributor for use of electronic bingo machines after June 30, 2022.**

26 * * *

27 **L. If any location, where electronic or video bingo machines are validly**
28 **licensed or permitted on or before June 30, 2022, to operate is damaged or**
29 **destroyed due to an occurrence that is an act of God, natural disaster, force**
30 **majeure, catastrophic event, action by a governmental body, or a similar**

1 occurrence over which the licensee or permittee has no reasonable control, the
2 office may allow electronic or video bingo machines to operate at the same
3 physical location.

4 M.(1) A location that has been licensed to conduct electronic video bingo
5 by the office on or before June 30, 2022, may be sold or transferred to a new
6 owner if the new owner is found suitable to hold a charitable gaming license by
7 the office pursuant to this Chapter.

8 (2) Electronic video bingo machines licensed by the office on or before
9 June 30, 2022, may be sold or transferred to a new owner if the new owner is
10 found suitable to hold a charitable gaming license by the office pursuant to this
11 Chapter.

12 N.(1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if the office is
13 authorized by law to issue any new license or permit, the office shall not issue
14 any new license or permit after June 30, 2022, that would allow any electronic
15 or video bingo machine to be placed within one mile from any property on the
16 National Register of Historic Places, any public playground, any residential
17 property, or any building used primarily as a church, synagogue, public library,
18 or school. The measurement of the distance shall be a straight line from the
19 nearest point of the intended location for the electronic video bingo machine for
20 which any license or permit is sought to the nearest point of the property on the
21 National Register of Historic Places, the public playground, the residential
22 property, or the building used primarily as a church, synagogue, public library,
23 or school.

24 (2) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to either of the
25 following:

26 (a) Any location that is damaged or destroyed due to an act of God,
27 natural disaster, force majeure, catastrophic event, action by a governmental
28 body, or a similar occurrence over which the licensee or permittee has no
29 control.

30 (b) To any location licensed to conduct electronic video bingo on or

1 before June 30, 2022.

2 (3) For purposes of this Paragraph, "residential property" means any
 3 property that is wholly or partly used for or intended to be used for living or
 4 sleeping by human occupants and that includes one or more rooms, including
 5 a bathroom and complete kitchen facilities. "Residential property" shall include
 6 a mobile home or manufactured housing, provided that the mobile home or
 7 manufactured housing has been in its present location for at least sixty days.
 8 "Residential property" shall not include any hotel or motel.

9 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2023.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____