

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 996

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRYANT

GAMBLING/CHARITABLE: Provides relative to the operation of charitable bingo

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:714(C), 724(B)(1) and (9), 732(B)(2) and (I), and 740(A), to  
3 enact R.S. 4:724(B)(10), and to repeal R.S. 4:739(E)(1) and (2), relative to charitable  
4 gaming; to provide relative to the use of electronic or video bingo games; to provide  
5 relative to the cost of each game play; to require machines to accept any  
6 denomination of cash in the form of bills or tickets; to provide relative to the limit  
7 for the mega jackpot for progressive mega jackpot bingo games; to provide relative  
8 to sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo on Electronic Bingo Card Dabber  
9 Devices; to provide relative to the number of electronic dabber devices issued to  
10 patrons who purchase bingo paper packs; to provide relative to the conducting and  
11 regulation of charitable gaming; to provide relative to sales of progressive mega  
12 jackpot bingo on Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Devices; and to provide for related  
13 matters.

14 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

15 Section 1. R.S. 4:714(C), 724(B)(1) and (9), 732(B)(2) and (I), and 740(A) are  
16 hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:724(B)(10) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

17 §714. Restrictions; requirements; transfers; prohibitions

18 \* \* \*

19 C.(1) Each licensee shall designate an active member and a sufficient  
20 number of alternate members of the organization to be in charge of and primarily  
21 responsible for each session of a game of chance. Such individual, or alternates, who

1 shall be designated as the member-in-charge, shall supervise all activities of such  
2 session and be responsible for the conduct of all games of such session. The  
3 member-in-charge or alternate shall be present at all times on the premises during the  
4 session. ~~In addition, each~~ The provisions of this Paragraph shall only apply to call  
5 bingo sessions.

6 (2) Each licensee shall designate an active member of the organization to be  
7 responsible for the documentation of receipts and disbursements as well as the  
8 maintenance of all financial records. Such individual designated shall have been a  
9 member in good standing of the organization and shall be familiar with the  
10 provisions of this Chapter, applicable local ordinances and regulations, and the rules  
11 and regulations of the office.

12 \* \* \*

13 §724. Use of electronic or video bingo games

14 \* \* \*

15 B. Any such electronic bingo machine shall be subject to the following  
16 requirements and restrictions concerning its operation and use:

17 (1) The cost of each game play shall be not less than twenty-five cents nor  
18 more than ~~one dollar~~ four dollars.

19 \* \* \*

20 (9) A machine shall have a mechanism that accepts any denomination of  
21 cash in the form of bills or tickets verifiable as valid indicating the ticket value.

22 (10) No person under the age of eighteen shall assist in the holding,  
23 operation, or conducting of electronic or video bingo games.

24 \* \* \*

25 §732. Progressive bingo

26 \* \* \*

27 B.

28 \* \* \*

1           (2) The mega jackpot for a progressive mega jackpot bingo game played  
 2           pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of this Section and networked or  
 3           linked together pursuant to Subsection G of this Section may exceed the limit  
 4           established in R.S. 4:714, but shall not exceed ~~ten~~ thirty thousand dollars. Portions  
 5           of players' contributions to progressive mega jackpot bingo games may be used for  
 6           consolation prizes and to contribute to the progressive mega prize pool and shall not  
 7           be considered part of the limit established in R.S. 4:714~~(B)~~.

\* \* \*

9           I. Sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo on an Electronic Bingo Card  
 10          Dabber Device for any organization shall not exceed ~~six~~ thirty games per hour ~~and~~  
 11          ~~shall not exceed the gross sales of bingo and pull-tabs in a single reporting quarter~~  
 12          ~~for any organization.~~ The office may suspend the sales of progressive mega jackpot  
 13          bingo for any organization that violates the provisions of this Subsection until the  
 14          organization becomes compliant.

\* \* \*

16          §740. Session defined

17          A. A session represents authorized games of chance played within a time  
 18          limit not to exceed eight consecutive hours, ~~with a minimum of twelve hours~~  
 19          ~~between sessions.~~ A licensee may operate no more than five premises for the  
 20          purpose of charitable gaming activities, however, each licensee may only have one  
 21          session at each premise per twelve hour period. A session of keno or bingo when the  
 22          licensee possesses a special license is limited to ~~six~~ eight consecutive hours.  
 23          Sessions are limited to not more than one session per calendar day per licensee.  
 24          Organizations are not allowed to begin their session until the stated time on their  
 25          license issued by the office.

\* \* \*

27          Section 2. R.S. 4:739(E)(1) and (2) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

---

**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HB 996 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Bryant

**Abstract:** Provides relative to requirements for certain members of a charitable organization, provides relative to electronic video bingo machines, increases the limit for the mega jackpot for a progressive mega jackpot bingo game, and provides relative to the definition of a session.

Present law (R.S. 4:714(C)) provides that a member of a licensed charity must be present during any bingo games.

Proposed law amends present law to require a member of the licensed charity to be present only during call bingo games.

Present law (R.S. 4:724(B)) provides relative to requirements and restrictions for electronic video bingo machines. Provides that the cost of each game shall not be less than 25¢ nor more than one dollar.

Proposed law provides that the cost of each game shall not be less than 25¢ nor more than four dollars. Further requires electronic video bingo machines to have a mechanism that accepts any denomination of cash in the form of bills or tickets verifiable as valid indicating the ticket value.

Present law (R.S. 4:732(B)(2)) provides that the mega jackpot for a progressive mega jackpot bingo game, networked or linked together through the use of Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Devices, may exceed the present law prize limit of \$4,500, but shall not exceed \$10,000.

Proposed law provides that the mega jackpot for a progressive mega jackpot bingo game, networked or linked together through the use of Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Devices, may exceed \$4,500, but shall not exceed \$30,000.

Present law (R.S. 4:732(I)) provides that sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo on an Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Device for any organization shall not exceed six games per hour and shall not exceed the gross sales of bingo and pull-tabs in a single reporting quarter for any organization. Authorizes the office of charitable gaming to suspend the sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo for any organization that violates present law until the organization becomes compliant.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that the sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo on an Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Device for any organization shall not exceed 30 games per hour. Proposed law removes the present law prohibition that the sales shall not exceed the gross sales of bingo and pull-tabs in a single reporting quarter for any organization.

Present law (R.S. 4:739(E)(1) and (2)) provides that no more than two electronic dabber devices may be issued to any patron who has purchased bingo paper packs for use with the device. Further requires at least one electronic dabber device to be used as a back up in the event a device in play malfunctions.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law (R.S. 4:740(A)) provides for the definition of a session, which shall not exceed eight consecutive hours with a minimum of 12 hours between sessions. Further provides that a session of keno or bingo when the licensee possesses a special license is limited to six consecutive hours.

Proposed law amends present law to remove the minimum of twelve hours between sessions. Authorizes a licensee to operate no more than five premises for the purpose of charitable gaming activities. Further provides that a session of keno or bingo when the licensee possesses a special license is limited to eight consecutive hours.

(Amends R.S. 4:714(C), 724(B)(1) and (9), 732(B)(2) and (I), and 740(A); Adds R.S. 4:724(B)(10); Repeals R.S. 4:739(E)(1) and (2))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Require a member of the licensed charity to be present only during call bingo games.
2. Provide that sales of progressive mega jackpot bingo on an Electronic Bingo Card Dabber Device shall not exceed 30 games per hour rather than six games per hour and remove the prohibition that the sales shall not exceed the gross sales of bingo and pull-tabs in a single reporting quarter for any organization.
3. Relative to the definition of a session, remove the present law minimum of 12 hours between sessions, authorize a licensee to operate at no more than five premises for the purpose of charitable gaming activities, and provide that a session is limited to eight consecutive hours rather than six consecutive hours when the licensee possesses a special license.
4. Repeal present law which requires at least one electronic dabber device to be used as a back up in the event a device in play malfunctions.