

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 315 by Representative Bryant as proposed by the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice

**This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.**

To amend and reenact R.S. 4:706(B), 707(B), and 726(F) and to enact R.S. 4:707.2, 725.2, and 726(E), relative to charitable bingo, video bingo, and keno; to provide for the operations of charitable bingo, video bingo; to provide for the operation of charitable pull-tabs; to provide for the purchasing of equipment; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 4:706(B), 707(B), and 726(F) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:707.2, 725.2, and 726(E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§706. Decision whether to permit raffles, bingo, and keno

\* \* \*

B. ~~The governing authority of each parish shall decide whether charitable raffles, bingo, and keno as provided for in this Chapter shall be permitted within the parish.~~ A municipality, political subdivision, governing authority, parish council, or parish police jury shall allow a charitable organization, commercial hall owner, non-commercial hall owner, or distributor to participate in or operate an existing keno, bingo, or video bingo location that offers charitable raffles, bingo, video bingo, or keno within the municipality or parish, pending any legal litigation or other type of dispute. Any monies or payments illegally collected or confirmed to be illegal by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be paid back to the payer that paid them within forty-five days.

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§707. Authorization to license certain organizations; exemption; requirement for state license

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B. In addition to the licensing required in Subsection A of this Section, the governing authority of any municipality or parish ~~may~~ shall, consistent with the provisions of this Chapter, license charitable organizations as defined in R.S. 4:703(1) to hold and operate the following specific games of chance:

\* \* \*

§707.2. Licensed charitable organizations

A. A charitable organization may obtain a non-commercial lessor's license and shall have the privilege to have consecutive eight-hour sessions in keno, bingo, and video bingo within a twenty-four hour period.

B. Act 285 of the 2023 Regular Session, or any other Act or law pertaining to charitable keno, bingo, or video bingo, shall not prohibit any charitable organization that has obtained a distributor's license as of December 1, 2024, from acquiring video bingo machines from a licensed non-charitable distributor to operate existing keno, bingo, or video bingo hall locations, or from opening new keno, bingo, or video bingo hall locations in approved parishes.

C. A credit/cash redemption terminal is a separate self-service terminal that allows customers to exchange tickets for cash and may be utilized or used by a licensee. A charitable organization shall obtain all ticket-in-ticket-out and cash redemption terminals from a non-charitable licensed distributor.

D. A licensed charitable organization that is also licensed as a distributor as of December 31, 2024, may operate existing locations or open new locations within the parish it currently operates and may open and operate new locations in the following parishes: Bienville, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, La Salle, Lincoln, Morehouse, Ouchita, Rapides, Richland, Sabine, Union, Vernon, West Carroll, and Winn.

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§725.2. Pull-tab dispensing and redemption terminals

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

A. For the safety and security of a charitable organization's employees and staff, a licensed charity may use a pull-tab dispensing terminal and a pull-tab redemption terminal.

B.(1) A pull-tab dispensing terminal is a self-service terminal to purchase pull-tabs and shall have capabilities to remotely track sales of pull-tabs sold, via an online portal provided by the manufacturer at any time, to comply with the charitable organization's scheduled sessions.

(2) The pull-tab dispensing terminal may allow ticket-in-ticket-out functionality where a winning pull-tab can be exchanged for new pull-tab tickets. The pull-tabs being dispensed shall have a secure, scannable code printed on all pull-tabs to enable patrons to collect cash from winning pull-tabs via a pull-tab redemption terminal.

(C).(1) A pull-tab redemption terminal is a self-service terminal that allows customers to exchange tickets for cash and may be used by a licensed charity. The charity shall obtain all redemption terminals from a non-charitable licensed distributor.

(2) A pull-tab redemption terminal may be used by a licensed charity to validate and secure cash payouts for all pull-tabs. The pull-tab redemption terminal shall keep a secure record via an online portal provided by the manufacturer of all scanned pull-tabs and be auditable by the licensee or distributor who owns the terminal.

D. Each batch of pull-tabs must be paired to the pull-tab dispensing terminal and pull-tab redemption terminal via a master pairing code provided in each device provided by the pull-tab manufacturer. The master pairing code shall validate that the scanned pull-tab is from the corresponding batch and verify the value of the given pull-tab. The QR code data shall be encoded and obfuscated so the value of the pull-tab cannot be determined or manipulated.

E. The pull-tab dispensing terminal and the pull-tab redemption terminal may be enclosed in a single unit.

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F.E. Each manufacturer or distributor of gaming supplies or equipment shall be subject to the provisions of this Chapter, and all rules and regulations adopted by the office pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

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)]

(Amends R.S. 4:706(B), 707(B), and 726(F) and enacts R.S. 4:707.2, 725.2, and 726(E))