

By Senator Silver

38-310-02

See HB 23

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to bingo; amending s. 849.0931,  
3           F.S.; defining the terms "instant bingo" and  
4           "package"; providing rules for the operation of  
5           instant bingo games; providing penalties;  
6           providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. Subsections (1), (5), (6), and (7) of  
11 section 849.0931, Florida Statutes, are amended, present  
12 subsection (13) of that section is renumbered as subsection  
13 (14), and a new subsection (13) is added to that section, to  
14 read:

15           849.0931 Bingo authorized; conditions for conduct;  
16 permitted uses of proceeds; limitations.--

17           (1) As used in this section:

18           (a) "Bingo game" means and refers to the activity,  
19 commonly known as "bingo," in which participants pay a sum of  
20 money for the use of one or more bingo cards. When the game  
21 commences, numbers are drawn by chance, one by one, and  
22 announced. The players cover or mark those numbers on the  
23 bingo cards which they have purchased until a player receives  
24 a given order of numbers in sequence that has been  
25 preannounced for that particular game. This player calls out  
26 "bingo" and is declared the winner of a predetermined prize.  
27 More than one game may be played upon a bingo card, and  
28 numbers called for one game may be used for a succeeding game  
29 or games.

30           (b) "Bingo card" means and refers to the flat piece of  
31 paper or thin pasteboard employed by players engaged in the

1 game of bingo. The bingo card shall have not fewer than 24  
2 playing numbers printed on it. These playing numbers shall  
3 range from 1 through 75, inclusive. More than one set of  
4 bingo numbers may be printed on any single piece of paper.

5 (c) "Charitable, nonprofit, or veterans' organization"  
6 means an organization which has qualified for exemption from  
7 federal income tax as an exempt organization under the  
8 provisions of s. 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954  
9 or s. 528 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;  
10 which is engaged in charitable, civic, community, benevolent,  
11 religious, or scholastic works or other similar activities;  
12 and which has been in existence and active for a period of 3  
13 years or more.

14 (d) "Instant bingo" means a game that is played using  
15 tickets by which a player wins a prize by opening and removing  
16 a cover from the ticket to reveal a set of numbers, letters,  
17 objects, or patterns, some of which have been predesignated in  
18 advance as prize winners.

19 ~~(e)(d)~~ "Objects" means a set of 75 balls or other  
20 precision shapes that are imprinted with letters and numbers  
21 in such a way that numbers 1 through 15 are marked with the  
22 letter "B," numbers 16 through 30 are marked with the letter  
23 "I," numbers 31 through 45 are marked with the letter "N,"  
24 numbers 46 through 60 are marked with the letter "G," and  
25 numbers 61 through 75 are marked with the letter "O."

26 (f) "Package" means a separate set of not more than  
27 4,000 instant bingo tickets in which the predetermined minimum  
28 prize payout is at least 65 percent of the total receipts from  
29 the sale of the entire package.

30 (g)~~(e)~~ "Rack" means the container in which the objects  
31 are placed after being drawn and announced.

1           ~~(h)(f)~~ "Receptacle" means the container from which the  
2 objects are drawn or ejected.

3           ~~(i)(g)~~ "Session" means a designated set of games  
4 played in a day or part of a day.

5           (5) Except for instant bingo prizes, which are limited  
6 to those displayed on the ticket, no jackpot may ~~shall~~ exceed  
7 the value of \$250 in actual money or its equivalent, and there  
8 shall be no more than three jackpots in any one session of  
9 bingo.

10           (6) Except for instant bingo, which is not limited by  
11 this subsection, the number of days per week during which  
12 organizations authorized hereunder may conduct bingo may not  
13 exceed two.

14           (7) Except for instant bingo prizes, which are limited  
15 to those displayed on the ticket, there shall be no more than  
16 three jackpots on any one day of play. All other game prizes  
17 may ~~shall~~ not exceed \$50.

18           ~~(13)(a)~~ Instant bingo tickets must be sold at the  
19 price printed on the ticket, not to exceed \$1. Discounts may  
20 not be given for purchases of multiple tickets, nor may  
21 tickets be given away free of charge.

22           ~~(b)~~ The sets of numbers, letters, objects, or patterns  
23 that have been predesignated as winning combinations for a  
24 package of bingo tickets must be posted before the sale of any  
25 tickets from that package.

26           ~~(14)(13)~~ Any organization or other person who  
27 willfully and knowingly violates any provision of this section  
28 is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as  
29 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. For a second or  
30 subsequent offense, the organization or other person is guilty  
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1 of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.  
2 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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Provides rules for the operation of instant bingo games.  
(See bill for details.)

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