

By Representative Wishner

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, subsection
12 (13) is renumbered as subsection (14), and a new subsection
13 (13) is added to said section, to read:

14 849.0931 Bingo authorized; conditions for conduct;
15 permitted uses of proceeds; limitations.--

16 (1) As used in this section:

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

29 (b) "Bingo card" means and refers to the flat piece of
30 paper or thin pasteboard employed by players engaged in the
31 game of bingo. The bingo card shall have not fewer than 24

1 playing numbers printed on it. These playing numbers shall
2 range from 1 through 75, inclusive. More than one set of
3 bingo numbers may be printed on any single piece of paper.

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

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

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

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

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

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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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6 HOUSE SUMMARY

7 Provides rules for the operation of instant bingo games.
8 See bill for details.

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