

HB 1039

2010

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to bingo games; amending s. 849.0931,  
3       F.S.; authorizing electronic devices to be used for  
4       certain functions in the conduct of bingo games; providing  
5       an effective date.

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

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9       Section 1. Subsection (12) of section 849.0931, Florida  
10      Statutes, is amended to read:

11       849.0931 Bingo authorized; conditions for conduct;  
12      permitted uses of proceeds; limitations.—

13       (12) Each bingo game shall be conducted in accordance with  
14      the following rules:

15       (a) The objects, whether drawn or ejected, shall be  
16      essentially equal as to size, shape, weight, and balance and as  
17      to all other characteristics that may control their selection  
18      from the receptacle. The caller shall cancel any game if, during  
19      the course of a game, the mechanism used in the drawing or  
20      ejection of objects becomes jammed in such a manner as to  
21      interfere with the accurate determination of the next number to  
22      be announced or if the caller determines that more than one  
23      object is labeled with the same number or that there is a number  
24      to be drawn without a corresponding object. Any player in a game  
25      canceled pursuant to this paragraph shall be permitted to play  
26      the next game free of charge.

27       (b) Prior to commencement of any bingo session, the member  
28      in charge shall cause a verification to be made of all objects

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29 | to be placed in the receptacle and shall inspect the objects in  
30 | the presence of a disinterested person to ensure that all  
31 | objects are present and that there are no duplications or  
32 | omissions of numbers on the objects. Any player shall be  
33 | entitled to call for a verification of numbers before, during,  
34 | and after a session.

35 |       (c) The card or sheet on which the game is played shall be  
36 | part of a deck, group, or series, no two of which may be alike  
37 | in any given game.

38 |       (d) All numbers shall be visibly displayed after being  
39 | drawn and before being placed in the rack.

40 |       (e) A bona fide bingo shall consist of a predesignated  
41 | arrangement of numbers on a card or sheet that correspond with  
42 | the numbers on the objects drawn from the receptacle and  
43 | announced. Errors in numbers announced or misplaced in the rack  
44 | may not be recognized as a bingo.

45 |       (f) When a caller has started to vocally announce a  
46 | number, the caller shall complete the call. If any player has  
47 | obtained a bingo on a previous number, such player will share  
48 | the prize with the player who gained bingo on the last number  
49 | called.

50 |       (g) Numbers on the winning cards or sheets shall be  
51 | announced and verified in the presence of another player. Any  
52 | player shall be entitled at the time the winner is determined to  
53 | call for a verification of numbers drawn. The verification shall  
54 | be in the presence of the member designated to be in charge of  
55 | the occasion or, if such person is also the caller, in the  
56 | presence of an officer of the licensee.

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57 (h) Upon determining a winner, the caller shall ask, "Are  
58 there any other winners?" If no one replies, the caller shall  
59 declare the game closed. No other player is entitled to share  
60 the prize unless she or he has declared a bingo prior to this  
61 announcement.

62 (i) Seats may not be held or reserved by an organization  
63 or person involved in the conduct of any bingo game for players  
64 not present, nor may any cards be set aside, held, or reserved  
65 from one session to another for any player.

66 (j) The provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) may be  
67 satisfied by electronic devices that provide the same  
68 functionality.

69 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.