914396

LEGISLATIVE ACTION House Senate Comm: RCS 03/25/2025

The Committee on Regulated Industries (Bradley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

3 Between lines 99 and 100

insert:

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Section 2. Present subsections (8) and (9) of section 546.10, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (9) and (10), respectively, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

546.10 Amusement games or machines.-

(8) (a) 1. Before purchasing or installing a game or machine

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on the premises of any veterans' service organization granted a federal charter under Title 36, U.S.C., or a division, a department, a post, or a chapter of such organization, for which an alcoholic beverage license has been issued, and the veterans' service organization is in doubt about whether a machine meets the definition of an amusement machine under this section, the organization may petition the Florida Gaming Control Commission for a declaratory statement under s. 120.565 on whether the operation of the game or machine would be authorized under this section or would be a violation of this section or chapter 849. A game or machine awaiting a declaratory statement from the commission may not be purchased or installed until the declaratory statement is issued.

- 2. If there is a game or machine currently on the premises of any veterans' service organization granted a federal charter under Title 36, U.S.C., or a division, a department, a post, or a chapter of such organization, for which an alcoholic beverage license has been issued and the veterans' service organization is in doubt about whether a machine meets the definition of an amusement machine under this section, the organization may petition the commission for a declaratory statement pursuant to s. 120.565 on whether the operation of the game or machine would be authorized under this section or would be a violation of this section or chapter 849. If the game, machine, premises, or organization is the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation, the organization may not petition the commission for a declaratory statement under this subsection.
- 3. The commission shall issue a declaratory statement pursuant to this subsection within 60 days after receiving a

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petition requesting such statement. The commission may not deny a petition that is validly requested pursuant to this subsection and 120.565.

- (b) A petition made under this subsection must provide enough information for the commission to issue the declaratory statement and must be accompanied by the exact specifications for the type of game or machine that the organization will purchase or install or currently has on the premises. The declaratory statement is valid only for the game or machine for which it is requested and is invalid if the specifications for the game or the machine have been changed.
- (c) The declaratory statement is binding on the commission and may be introduced in any subsequent proceedings as evidence of a good faith effort to comply with this section or chapter 849.
- (d) This subsection does not prevent the commission or any other criminal justice agency as defined in s. 943.045 from detecting, apprehending, and arresting a person for any alleged violation of chapter 24, part II of chapter 285, this chapter, chapter 550, chapter 551, or chapter 849, or any rule adopted pursuant thereto, or of any law of this state.
- (e) This subsection does not require an owner or an operator of an amusement game or machine under this section to request or obtain a declaratory statement in order to operate pursuant to this section.

65 66 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 5



and insert:

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the Florida Gaming Control Commission; amending s. 546.10, F.S.; authorizing certain organizations to petition the petition before purchasing, installing, or operating a game or machine on its premises before petitioning for and being issued a specified declaratory statement from the Florida Gaming Control Commission if the organization is unsure if such game or machine is an amusement machine; prohibiting such organizations from purchasing or installing a game or machine until an outstanding declaratory statement is issued; prohibiting such organizations from seeking a declaratory statement if the game or machine in question is the subject of a criminal investigation; requiring the commission to issue a declaratory statement within a specified timeframe; prohibiting the commission from denying a petition if it was validly requested; specifying what information must be included in a request for a declaratory statement; providing that the declaratory statement is valid only for the game or machine for which it is requested; providing that the declaratory statement is invalid if the specifications for the game or machine have been changed; providing that the declaratory statement is binding on the commission and may be introduced as evidence in subsequent proceedings; providing construction; amending s.