

HOUSE BILL 1149

C7

8lr3019

By: **Delegates Mathias and Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Worcester County – Bingo**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain fees and prize amounts for bingo conducted in
4 Worcester County; repealing a prohibition against conducting bingo outside the
5 election district in which the main office, headquarters, or usual meeting place
6 of the applicant for a bingo license is located; authorizing a certain bingo prize
7 to be awarded without a prize limit; repealing prohibitions against conducting
8 bingo on Sunday and using certain forms of advertising; and generally relating
9 to bingo conducted in Worcester County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Criminal Law
12 Section 13–2605
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2002 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Criminal Law
17 Section 13–2610 and 13–2611
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2002 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

20 BY repealing
21 Article – Criminal Law
22 Section 13–2612
23 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2002 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
3 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

4 **Article – Criminal Law**

5 13–2605.

6 In this part, “board” means the Worcester County Bingo Board.

7 13–2610.

8 (a) An organization or municipal corporation described in § 13–2606 of this
9 subtitle that intends to conduct bingo under this part must obtain:

10 (1) an annual license to conduct bingo for more than 15 days in a year;
11 or

12 (2) a temporary license to conduct bingo for 15 days or fewer in a year.

13 (b) (1) An applicant for a license shall submit to the board an application
14 on the form that the board by regulation requires.

15 (2) The application form shall require:

16 (i) the name of the applicant;

17 (ii) the name of each principal officer of the applicant; and

18 (iii) a certification that no person will conduct bingo except a
19 person who:

20 1. is a salaried employee or bona fide member of the
21 applicant; and

22 2. shall not receive any form of commission or bonus.

23 (c) (1) An applicant shall pay to the board a license fee of:

24 (i) \$100 for an annual license; or

25 (ii) **FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE:**

26 1. **[\$3] A \$25 MINIMUM FEE; AND**

1 **2.** **A \$5 FEE** for each day bingo is conducted [for a
2 temporary license].

3 (2) The board shall pay to the county commissioners all license fees
4 collected under this part.

5 (d) The board shall issue a license to each applicant who meets the
6 requirements of this part and the regulations adopted under this part.

7 [(e) A license may not be issued to an applicant to conduct bingo outside the
8 election district in which the main office, headquarters, or usual meeting place of the
9 applicant is located.]

10 [(f)] **(E)** If an applicant conducts bingo on premises that are leased by the
11 applicant, the lease agreement must be approved by the board before a license may be
12 issued.

13 [(g)] **(F)** The board may deny a license to an applicant or suspend or revoke
14 a license if the applicant or licensee has violated this part or any regulation adopted
15 under this part.

16 13-2611.

17 (a) The charge for admission to a place in order to participate in bingo
18 conducted under this part may not exceed [~~\$1~~] **\$5**.

19 (b) (1) Except as provided in ~~paragraph (2)~~ **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)** of
20 this subsection, the value of a prize in money, merchandise, or services for any one
21 game of bingo conducted under this part may not exceed [~~\$50~~] **\$200**.

22 (2) Jackpot prizes may be offered in a maximum amount of [~~\$1,000~~]
23 **\$5,000**.

24 **(3) WINNER-TAKE-ALL PRIZES MAY BE OFFERED WITHOUT A**
25 **PRIZE LIMIT.**

26 (c) A licensee's employees and the terms of their employment must be
27 approved by the board before they may conduct bingo under this part.

28 (d) A minor may not be allowed to participate in bingo conducted under this
29 part.

30 (e) [Bingo may not be conducted under this part on Sunday.

31 (f)] Bingo may not be conducted under this part in a room or area where
32 alcoholic beverages are sold or served during the game.

1 [(g)] (F) A licensee under this part may not conduct bingo on more than 125
2 days in a year.

3 [13–2612.

4 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person may not
5 advertise the location or time of bingo, or the prizes awarded or to be awarded, by:

6 (1) radio, television, or sound systems;

7 (2) billboards, posters, or handbills; or

8 (3) any other means addressed to the public.

9 (b) (1) Unless otherwise prohibited by county or municipal law, one sign
10 not exceeding 36 square feet, stating that bingo will be conducted, may be displayed on
11 or adjacent to the premises where bingo will be conducted.

12 (2) In accordance with regulations adopted under § 13–2608 of this
13 subtitle, notice that bingo will be conducted may be posted on a bulletin board or
14 included on a poster inside a hotel, motel, restaurant, or store that is located in the
15 election district in which the game will be conducted.]

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2008.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.