



Substitute House Bill No. 7043

Public Act No. 07-144

AN ACT CONCERNING OFF-TRACK BETTING BRANCH FACILITIES AND BINGO PRIZES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 12-571a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Division of Special Revenue and the Gaming Policy Board shall not operate or authorize the operation of more than eighteen off-track betting branch facilities, except that the division and the board may operate or authorize the operation of any off-track betting facility approved prior to December 31, 1986, by the legislative body of a municipality in accordance with subsection (a) of section 12-572. Any facility approved prior to December 31, 1986, shall be included within the eighteen branch facilities authorized by this subsection.

(b) The eighteen off-track betting branch facilities authorized by subsection (a) of this section may include [eight] ten facilities which have screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai alai games and other amenities including, but not limited to, restaurants and concessions, provided, on and after [June 19, 1992, four of such] the effective date of this act, the ten facilities which have simulcasting shall be located in the town and city of New Haven, the

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town of Windsor Locks [, within the dog race track in the town of Plainfield and within the fronton or dog race track] the town of East Haven, the town and city of Norwalk, the town and city of Hartford, the town and city of New Britain, the town and city of Bristol, the town and city of Torrington, the town and city of Waterbury and in the town and city of Bridgeport. [Authority to simulcast does not include any branch facility located within a zone of protection negotiated between the operator of the off-track betting system and any other pari-mutuel betting facility. Each such facility located within a fronton or a dog race track shall be operated by the licensee authorized to operate the off-track betting system in conjunction with the licensee of such fronton or dog race track and all such facilities within a fronton or a dog race track shall be operated in substantially the same manner.] The location of each such facility shall be approved by the executive director with the consent of the Gaming Policy Board and shall be subject to the prior approval of the legislative body of the town in which such facility is proposed to be located. The division shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to legalized gambling on the status of the establishment or improvement of the off-track betting branch facility pursuant to this subsection.

[(c) If an operator of an off-track betting facility equipped with screens for simulcasting intends to simulcast at such facility dog racing events or jai alai games, such operator (1) shall simulcast dog racing events or jai alai games conducted by any association licensee which offers such racing events or games for simulcasting provided such operator obtains the written consent of such licensee and any other licensee authorized to conduct the same activity located within forty miles of such facility and (2) may simulcast out-of-state dog racing events or jai alai games when no such association licensee is conducting such racing events or games provided such operator has complied with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection.]

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[(d) The division and board or a licensee authorized to operate the off-track betting system may operate any off-track betting branch office facilities not operated in the manner of the facilities operated under subsection (b) of this section as facilities which have monitors for off-track betting information, bench seating and adequate public rest room facilities for patrons.]

Sec. 2. Subsection (i) of section 7-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

(i) Prizes offered for the winning of bingo games may consist of cash, merchandise, tickets for any lottery conducted under chapter 226, the value of which shall be the purchase price printed on such tickets, or other personal property. No permittee may offer a prize which exceeds ~~[fifty]~~ one hundred dollars in value, except that (1) a permittee may offer a prize or prizes on any one day of not less than ~~[fifty-one]~~ one hundred one dollars or more than ~~[two]~~ three hundred dollars in value, provided the total value of such prizes on any one day does not exceed ~~[six]~~ twelve hundred dollars, (2) a permittee may offer one or two winner-take-all games or series of games played on any day on which the permittee is allowed to conduct bingo, provided ninety per cent of all receipts from the sale of bingo cards for such winner-take-all game or series of games shall be awarded as prizes and provided each prize awarded does not exceed five hundred dollars in value, (3) the holder of a Class A permit may offer two additional prizes on a weekly basis not to exceed one hundred twenty-five dollars each as a special grand prize and in the event such a special grand prize is not won, the money reserved for such prize shall be added to the money reserved for the next week's special grand prize, provided no such special grand prize may accumulate for more than sixteen weeks or exceed a total of two thousand dollars, and (4) a permittee may award door prizes the aggregate value of which shall not exceed two hundred dollars in

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value. When more than one player wins on the call of the same number, the designated prize shall be divided equally to the next nearest dollar. If a permittee elects, no winner may receive a prize which amounts to less than ten per cent of the announced prize and in such case the total of such multiple prizes may exceed the statutory limit of such game.

Approved June 25, 2007