



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

***Raised Bill No. 100***

LCO No. 734



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:  
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING BAZAARS AND RAFFLES.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 7-173 of the 2014 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

4 Any organization desiring to operate a bazaar or raffle in a  
5 municipality which has adopted the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-  
6 186, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall make application in  
7 duplicate, duly executed and verified, to the [chief of police of any  
8 municipality having a police department or to the chief executive  
9 officer of any town in which there is no police department,]  
10 Commissioner of Consumer Protection on a form to be prescribed by  
11 the [Commissioner of Consumer Protection] commissioner, in which  
12 shall be stated (1) the name and address of the applicant; (2) facts  
13 relating to its incorporation or organization; (3) the names, titles and  
14 addresses of its officers; (4) the kind of bazaar or raffle intended to be  
15 held, operated and conducted by the applicant; (5) the place where  
16 such bazaar or raffle is intended to be conducted by the applicant

17 under the permit applied for; (6) the date or dates and the time or  
18 times when such bazaar or raffle is intended to be conducted by the  
19 applicant under the permit applied for; (7) in the case of a raffle, the  
20 number and price of tickets intended to be sold; (8) the items of  
21 expense intended to be incurred or paid in connection with the  
22 holding, operating and conducting of such bazaar or raffle and the  
23 names and addresses of the persons to whom, and the purposes for  
24 which, they are to be paid; (9) the items of merchandise offered, the  
25 price to be paid by the organization therefor or the retail value of any  
26 prize donated, and the names and addresses of the persons from  
27 whom purchased or by whom donated; (10) the specific purposes to  
28 which the entire net proceeds of such bazaar or raffle are to be devoted  
29 and in what manner; and (11) any other information which the  
30 commissioner reasonably requires for the protection of the public. In  
31 each application there shall be designated three active members of the  
32 applicant under whom the bazaar or raffle described in the application  
33 is to be held, operated and conducted and to the application shall be  
34 appended a statement signed, under penalty of false statement, by  
35 such members so designated that they are residents of this state and  
36 will be responsible for the holding, operation and conduct of such  
37 bazaar or raffle in accordance with the terms of the permit and the  
38 provisions of said sections, and that the statements contained in the  
39 application are, to the best of their knowledge and belief, true. [Such  
40 chief of police or chief executive officer, as the case may be, shall, at  
41 least five business days prior to the date of such bazaar or raffle,  
42 forward the original copy of such application to said commissioner  
43 who shall review such application to determine whether the applicant  
44 is qualified to hold, operate and conduct a bazaar or raffle under the  
45 provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, or any regulations  
46 adopted pursuant thereto, and whether other requirements in said  
47 statutes and regulations have been satisfied.] The commissioner shall  
48 forward the duplicate copy of such application to the chief of police of  
49 the municipality or to the chief executive officer of the town in which  
50 there is no police department. For the purposes of applying for a "Class

51 No. 7" permit, authorized pursuant to section 7-175, the application  
52 required pursuant to this section shall be [made to the Commissioner  
53 of Consumer Protection] retained by the commissioner.

54 Sec. 2. Section 7-174 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
55 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

56 [Such] After receipt of an application from the Commissioner of  
57 Consumer Protection, the chief of police or chief executive officer, as  
58 the case may be, shall, on behalf of the [Commissioner of Consumer  
59 Protection] commissioner, make or cause to be made an investigation  
60 of the qualifications of the applicant and the facts stated in the  
61 application and, if such chief of police or chief executive officer  
62 determines that the applicant is qualified to hold, operate and conduct  
63 a bazaar or raffle under the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186,  
64 inclusive, as amended by this act, that the members of the applicant  
65 designated in the application to hold, operate or conduct such bazaar  
66 or raffle are [electors of such municipality] residents of this state, bona  
67 fide active members of the applicant and persons of good moral  
68 character and have never been convicted of a felony and that such  
69 bazaar or raffle is to be held, operated and conducted in accordance  
70 with the provisions of said sections and administrative regulations  
71 issued pursuant thereto, such chief of police or chief executive officer  
72 shall, with the approval of the commissioner, issue a permit to such  
73 applicant. [Upon issuing such permit, such chief of police or chief  
74 executive officer shall forward to the commissioner the state's share of  
75 the permit fee, if any.] Any investigation required pursuant to this  
76 section of the qualifications of an applicant for a "Class No. 7" permit,  
77 authorized pursuant to section 7-175, and any issuance of a "Class No.  
78 7" permit shall be made by the [Commissioner of Consumer  
79 Protection] commissioner.

80 Sec. 3. Section 7-176 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
81 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

82 The fees to be charged for permits and submitted to the  
83 Commissioner of Consumer Protection at the time of application shall  
84 be as follows: A "Class No. 1" permit, fifty dollars, twenty-five dollars  
85 to be retained by the [municipality] state and twenty-five dollars  
86 remitted to the [state] municipality; a "Class No. 2" permit, twenty  
87 dollars, ten dollars to be retained by the [municipality] state and ten  
88 dollars to be remitted to the [state] municipality; a "Class No. 3"  
89 permit, twenty dollars for each day of the bazaar, ten dollars to be  
90 retained by the [municipality] state and ten dollars to be remitted to  
91 the [state] municipality; a "Class No. 4" permit, five dollars, to be  
92 retained by the [municipality] state; a "Class No. 5" permit, eighty  
93 dollars, forty dollars to be retained by the [municipality] state and  
94 forty dollars remitted to the [state] municipality; a "Class No. 6"  
95 permit, one hundred dollars, fifty dollars to be retained by the  
96 [municipality] state and fifty dollars remitted to the [state]  
97 municipality; and a "Class No. 7" permit, one hundred dollars to be  
98 retained by the state.

99 Sec. 4. Section 7-182 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
100 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

101 Any sponsoring organization that holds, operates or conducts any  
102 bazaar or raffle, and its members who were in charge thereof, shall  
103 furnish to the [chief of police of the municipality or to the chief  
104 executive officer, as the case may be,] Commissioner of Consumer  
105 Protection a verified statement [, in duplicate,] showing (1) the amount  
106 of the gross receipts derived from each bazaar or raffle, (2) in the case  
107 of a raffle, the number and price of tickets sold, (3) each item of  
108 expense incurred or paid, and each item of expenditure made or to be  
109 made and the name and address of each person to whom each such  
110 item has been or is to be paid, (4) the net profit derived from each  
111 bazaar or raffle and the uses to which the net profit has been or is to be  
112 applied, and (5) a list of prizes of a retail value of fifty dollars or more  
113 offered or given with the amount paid for each prize purchased or the  
114 retail value for each prize donated and the names and addresses of the

115 persons to whom the prizes were given. Such report shall be furnished  
116 during the next succeeding month. The [chief of police or chief  
117 executive officer, as the case may be, shall forward the original copy of  
118 such report to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, who]  
119 commissioner shall keep [it] such report on file and available for public  
120 inspection for a period of one year thereafter. The sponsoring  
121 organization shall maintain and keep any books and records that may  
122 be necessary to substantiate the particulars of such report, which books  
123 and records shall be preserved for at least one year from the date of  
124 such report and shall be available for inspection. Such report shall be  
125 certified to under penalty of false statement by the three persons  
126 designated in the permit application as being responsible for the  
127 bazaar or raffle. [The report required pursuant to this section for a  
128 "Class No. 7" raffle, authorized pursuant to section 7-175, shall be  
129 submitted to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection during the  
130 next succeeding month following the final prize drawing.]

131 Sec. 5. Section 7-183 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
132 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

133 Each such report shall be examined by [the chief of police or the  
134 chief executive officer, as the case may be, and by] the Commissioner  
135 of Consumer Protection and shall be compared with the original  
136 application. The commissioner may refer any violation of sections 7-  
137 170 to 7-185, inclusive, as amended by this act, or administrative  
138 regulations issued pursuant thereto found therein to the office of the  
139 state's attorney having jurisdiction over the municipality in which the  
140 sponsoring organization is located and, [such] if the bazaar or raffle  
141 was located in a different municipality than the municipality in which  
142 the sponsoring organization is located, to the office of the state's  
143 attorney having jurisdiction over the municipality in which the bazaar  
144 or raffle was located. Such state's attorney office shall investigate and  
145 take such action as the facts require.

146 Sec. 6. Section 7-185a of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes

147 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
148 *October 1, 2014*):

149 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186,  
150 inclusive, as amended by this act, and the regulations adopted  
151 thereunder, any organized church, volunteer fire company or veterans  
152 organization or association conducting a bazaar or raffle, (1) [may have  
153 the actual drawing of the raffle in a municipality other than the  
154 municipality which grants the permit, provided the chief executive  
155 officer of the other municipality has in writing approved such  
156 drawing; (2) may conduct the bazaar in a municipality other than the  
157 municipality which grants the permit, provided the municipality in  
158 which the bazaar is to be conducted has adopted the provisions of  
159 sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, and the chief executive officer of such  
160 municipality has in writing approved such bazaar; (3)] may be  
161 permitted to redeem prizes in cash; [(4)] (2) shall be exempt from the  
162 requirement of preserving unsold raffle tickets beyond ninety days  
163 after the conclusion of the holding, operating and conducting of such  
164 bazaar or raffle and shall be permitted to dispose of unclaimed prizes  
165 after such ninety days; and [(5)] (3) may file a reconciliation of  
166 expenditures and receipts signed by an officer in lieu of an accountant.

167 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186,  
168 inclusive, as amended by this act, and the regulations adopted  
169 thereunder, any sponsoring organization qualified to conduct a bazaar  
170 or raffle under the provisions of section 7-172 [and recognized as a  
171 nonprofit organization under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the  
172 federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent  
173 corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time  
174 to time amended,] may conduct such bazaar or have the actual  
175 drawing of [the] such raffle in a municipality other than the  
176 municipality which grants the permit, provided the chief of police or  
177 the chief executive officer of the other municipality has in writing  
178 approved such bazaar or drawing.

179 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7-177, any sponsoring  
180 organization conducting a bazaar may operate "fifty-fifty" coupon  
181 games each day of a permitted bazaar event and may award cash  
182 prizes of fifty per cent of "fifty-fifty" coupon game sales for each  
183 coupon drawing conducted. Not more than three scheduled drawings  
184 may be held on any day on which a bazaar is permitted. A "fifty-fifty"  
185 coupon game shall be operated from an authorized bazaar booth,  
186 subject to the regulation of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection  
187 and shall allow for the sale of "fifty-fifty" coupons at a predetermined  
188 uniform price. Each "fifty-fifty" coupon shall be consecutively  
189 numbered and shall have a correspondingly numbered stub. Each  
190 sponsoring organization shall provide different colored coupons for  
191 each drawing and shall award one prize for each drawing held. Each  
192 sponsoring organization conducting such games shall conspicuously  
193 post, at each bazaar booth at which such games are conducted, a notice  
194 or notices which shall include the dates, times and places of any "fifty-  
195 fifty" coupon drawings, as well as the prices and colors of coupons to  
196 be sold for each drawing. The commissioner shall prescribe the form of  
197 such notice which shall contain the following statement: "Holders of  
198 coupons must be present to claim a prize." Each such organization  
199 shall account for each coupon printed and sold for each drawing and  
200 shall announce the amount of sales and the prize to be awarded  
201 immediately prior to each drawing. The sponsoring organization shall  
202 preserve all sold and unsold coupons or stubs for a period of at least  
203 one year from the date of the verified statement required pursuant to  
204 section 7-182, as amended by this act.

205 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7-177, any sponsoring  
206 organization qualified to conduct a bazaar or raffle under the  
207 provisions of section 7-172 may operate a cow-chip raffle once a  
208 calendar year and may award cash prizes in connection with  
209 participation in such a raffle, in addition to those prizes authorized  
210 pursuant to section 7-177. Such raffles shall conform to the provisions  
211 of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, as amended by this act, and shall

212 be subject to regulation by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.  
213 A cow-chip raffle shall allow for the sale of consecutively numbered  
214 tickets with correspondingly numbered stubs, entitling the holders of  
215 such tickets to the temporary possession of a plot of land for purposes  
216 of the conduct of the cow-chip raffle. Each sponsoring organization  
217 conducting a cow-chip raffle shall provide for a suitable land area on  
218 which the cow-chip raffle activity is to be conducted. The area shall be  
219 sufficiently enclosed so as to confine any animal utilized in the conduct  
220 of a cow-chip raffle during the period in which the animal is so  
221 utilized. The area shall be adequately marked so as to display the  
222 number of plots to be utilized, which shall correspond to the number  
223 of cow-chip raffle tickets to be sold. The manner in which winners in a  
224 cow-chip raffle are determined shall be clearly stated prior to the  
225 commencement of a cow-chip raffle drawing and each sponsoring  
226 organization shall conspicuously post an information board which  
227 shall display the consecutively numbered plots of the cow-chip raffle  
228 event. A cow-chip raffle drawing shall commence at a designated time  
229 and shall continue until all winners of authorized prizes have been  
230 determined. No person may feed, lead or handle any animal utilized in  
231 a cow-chip raffle once the animal has entered into the enclosed area  
232 from which winners will be determined. Each sponsoring organization  
233 conducting a cow-chip raffle shall deposit all proceeds from the  
234 conduct of such raffle in a special checking account established and  
235 maintained by such organization, which shall be subject to audit by the  
236 [Commissioner of Consumer Protection] commissioner. Any expense  
237 incidental to the conduct of such raffle shall be paid from the gross  
238 receipts of cow-chip raffle tickets and only by checks drawn from such  
239 checking account. All cash prizes awarded shall be paid from such  
240 checking account.

241 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186,  
242 inclusive, as amended by this act, and the regulations adopted  
243 pursuant to said sections, any sponsoring organization conducting a  
244 bazaar may operate a "teacup raffle" and may, through the sale of

245 chances, award prizes consisting of gift certificates or merchandise. No  
246 such organization may conduct more than one scheduled "teacup  
247 raffle" drawing for all prizes offered on any day on which a bazaar is  
248 permitted. A "teacup raffle" shall be operated from an authorized  
249 bazaar booth, and shall be subject to regulation by the Commissioner  
250 of Consumer Protection. Each "teacup raffle" ticket shall (1) be  
251 consecutively numbered and have a correspondingly numbered stub  
252 that shall include the name, address and telephone number of the  
253 purchaser, or (2) be a sheet containing up to twenty-five coupons, each  
254 bearing the same number, and including a "hold" stub for the  
255 purchaser and a correspondingly numbered stub including the name,  
256 address and telephone number of the purchaser. Sheet tickets shall be  
257 made available for purchase by permittees as fund raising items at a  
258 price not to exceed ten per cent above the purchase price. Each  
259 sponsoring organization conducting such raffle shall conspicuously  
260 post, at each bazaar booth at which such raffle is conducted, a notice or  
261 notices that include the date and time of any "teacup raffle" drawing.  
262 The sponsoring organization shall preserve all sold and unsold tickets  
263 or stubs for a period of at least one year from the date of the verified  
264 statement required pursuant to section 7-182, as amended by this act.

265 (f) (1) Any sponsoring organization qualified to conduct a bazaar or  
266 raffle under the provisions of section 7-172 may operate a duck-race  
267 raffle once each calendar year. Such raffles shall conform to the  
268 provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, as amended by this act,  
269 and shall be subject to regulation by the Commissioner of Consumer  
270 Protection. For the purpose of this subsection, "duck-race raffle" means  
271 a raffle in which artificial ducks, numbered consecutively to  
272 correspond with the number of tickets sold for such raffle, are placed  
273 in a naturally moving stream of water at a designated starting point  
274 and in which the ticket corresponding to the number of the first duck  
275 to pass a designated finishing point is the winning ticket. (2) The  
276 [Commissioner of Consumer Protection] commissioner shall adopt  
277 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, that establish procedures

278 for the operation of duck-race raffles.

279 (g) (1) Any sponsoring organization qualified to conduct a bazaar or  
280 raffle under the provisions of section 7-172 may operate a frog-race  
281 raffle once each calendar year. Such raffles shall conform to the  
282 provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, as amended by this act,  
283 and shall be subject to regulation by the Commissioner of Consumer  
284 Protection. For the purpose of this subsection, "frog-race raffle" means  
285 a raffle in which artificial frogs conforming to specifications approved  
286 by the commissioner and numbered consecutively to correspond with  
287 the number of tickets sold for such raffle, are placed in a naturally  
288 moving stream of water at a designated starting point and in which the  
289 ticket corresponding to the number of the first frog to pass a  
290 designated finishing point is the winning ticket. (2) The commissioner  
291 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, that establish  
292 procedures for the operation of frog-race raffles.

293 (h) (1) Any sponsoring organization qualified to conduct a bazaar or  
294 raffle under the provisions of section 7-172 may operate a golf ball-  
295 drop raffle once each calendar year. Any such raffle shall conform to  
296 the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, as amended by this  
297 act, and shall be subject to regulation by the Commissioner of  
298 Consumer Protection. For the purpose of this subsection, "golf ball-  
299 drop raffle" means a raffle in which golf balls, numbered consecutively  
300 to correspond with the number of tickets sold for such raffle, are  
301 dropped from a helicopter, hot air balloon or other aircraft hovering  
302 above a designated target, and in which the ticket corresponding to the  
303 number of the first golf ball to be closest to the center of the designated  
304 target is the winning ticket. (2) The [Commissioner of Consumer  
305 Protection] commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
306 chapter 54, establishing procedures for the operation of golf ball-drop  
307 raffles.

308 Sec. 7. Section 7-179 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
309 *October 1, 2014*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-173
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-174
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-176
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-182
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-183
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	7-185a
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To make revisions concerning the application process for a permit to conduct a bazaar and raffle and to repeal the restrictions on the advertisement of a bazaar and raffle.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*