



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 173

February Session, 2018

Substitute House Bill No. 5193

House of Representatives, April 4, 2018

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. D'AGOSTINO of the 91st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING BINGO PERMITS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-169 of the 2018 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) For the purposes of this section and section 7-169a, as amended
5 by this act, "bingo game" means a game in which each player receives a
6 card containing several rows of numbers and, as numbers are drawn
7 or otherwise obtained by chance and publicly announced, the player
8 first having a specified number of announced numbers appearing on
9 the player's card in a continuous straight line or covering a previously
10 designated arrangement of numbers on such card is declared the
11 winner; "person" or "applicant" means the officer or representative of
12 the sponsoring organization or the organization itself; "session" means
13 a series of games played in one day; and "municipal official" means the
14 chief of police of the municipality or his or her designee, or if there is

15 no police department, the chief executive officer of the municipality or
16 his or her designee, where the bingo game is to be conducted or is
17 conducted.

18 Sec. 2. Section 7-173 of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes
19 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
20 *from passage*):

21 (a) For the purposes of this section, "municipal official" means the
22 chief of police of the municipality or his or her designee, or if there is
23 no police department, the chief executive officer of the municipality or
24 his or her designee, where the bazaar or raffle is to be conducted.

25 (b) Any organization desiring to operate a bazaar or raffle in a
26 municipality which has adopted the provisions of sections 7-170 to 7-
27 186, inclusive, shall make application, duly executed and verified, to
28 the municipal official on a form to be prescribed by the municipal
29 official. The form shall include, but not be limited to, a description of
30 the bazaar or raffle to be conducted and any other information which
31 the municipal official reasonably requires for the protection of the
32 public. In each application there shall be designated three active
33 members of the applicant under whom the bazaar or raffle described
34 in the application is to be held, operated and conducted and to the
35 application shall be appended a statement signed, under penalty of
36 false statement, by such members so designated that they are residents
37 of this state and will be responsible for the holding, operation and
38 conduct of such bazaar or raffle in accordance with the terms of the
39 permit and the provisions of said sections, and that the statements
40 contained in the application are, to the best of their knowledge and
41 belief, true.

42 Sec. 3. Section 7-181 of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes
43 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
44 *from passage*):

45 (a) For the purposes of this section, "municipal official" means the
46 chief of police of the municipality or his or her designee, or if there is

47 no police department, the chief executive officer of the municipality or
48 his or her designee, where the bazaar or raffle is to be conducted or is
49 conducted.

50 (b) Whenever it appears to the municipal official, after an
51 investigation that any person is violating or is about to violate any
52 provision of sections 7-170 to 7-182, inclusive, or made any false
53 statement in any application for a permit or in any report required by
54 the provisions of said sections, the municipal official may in his or her
55 discretion, to protect the public welfare, order that any registration or
56 permit issued pursuant to said sections be immediately suspended or
57 revoked and that the person cease and desist from the actions
58 constituting such violation or which would constitute such violation.
59 Any person aggrieved by any order of the municipal official made
60 pursuant to this subsection may appeal to the superior court for the
61 judicial district in which the municipality is located.

62 (c) Whenever the municipal official revokes a permit issued
63 pursuant to sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive, the municipal official
64 shall not issue any permit to such permittee for three years after the
65 date of such violation.

66 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 7-185b of the 2018 supplement to the
67 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
68 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

69 (a) For the purposes of this section, "tuition raffle" means a raffle in
70 which the prize is payment of the tuition or part of the tuition at an
71 educational institution or payment of a student loan or part of a
72 student loan for a student recipient designated by the raffle winner,
73 and "municipal official" means the chief of police of the municipality or
74 his or her designee, or if there is no police department, the chief
75 executive officer of the municipality or his or her designee, where the
76 tuition raffle is to be conducted or is conducted.

77 Sec. 5. Section 7-176 of the 2018 supplement to the general statutes is
78 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

79 *passage*):

80 The fees to be charged for permits issued pursuant to section 7-175
 81 shall be as follows: A "Class No. 1" permit, not to exceed seventy-five
 82 dollars; a "Class No. 2" permit, not to exceed thirty dollars; a "Class No.
 83 3" permit, not to exceed sixty dollars; [for each day of the bazaar;] a
 84 "Class No. 4" permit, not to exceed fifteen dollars; a "Class No. 5"
 85 permit, not to exceed one hundred twenty dollars; a "Class No. 6"
 86 permit, not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars; and a "Class No. 7"
 87 permit, not to exceed three hundred dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	7-169(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	7-173
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	7-181
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	7-185b(a)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	7-176

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

There is no fiscal impact resulting from the bill, as it is a clarifying change connected with the transfer of the administration of bingo, raffle, and bazaar events to municipalities in 2017. This bill allows municipal police chiefs or executive officers to designate individuals to oversee bingo operations.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5193

AN ACT CONCERNING BINGO PERMITS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS.**SUMMARY**

This bill allows the municipal official who investigates, oversees, and permits certain qualified organizations to conduct bingo, bazaars, or raffles to assign a designee for such functions. By law, a municipal official is a municipality's police chief or, if there is no police department, the chief executive officer.

The bill allows qualified organizations to pay \$60 for each "Class 3" Bazaar Permit rather than such amount for each day of the bazaar. By law, a Class 3 permit allows a bazaar to operate for up to 60 individual days in a six month period following the permit's issuance (CGS § 7-175). A bazaar is a place maintained by a qualified organization to award merchandise by means of chance (CGS § 7-170).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Charitable Gaming***

PA 17-231 generally transferred the Department of Consumer Protection's (DCP) charitable gaming (e.g., bingo, bazaars, and raffles) investigation, oversight, and permitting functions to the municipality where the games are conducted. But DCP retains the (1) permitting and sales functions for sealed tickets and (2) regulatory authority over bingo product manufacturers and equipment dealers and raffle equipment dealers.

Qualified Organizations

By law, qualified organizations for a bazaar or raffle permit are the

following organizations or groups: veterans'; religious; civic; fraternal; educational and charitable; volunteer fire companies; political parties and their town committees; and sponsoring municipalities acting through a designated centennial, bicentennial, or other centennial celebration committee (CGS § 7-172).

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/20/2018)