

1 AN ACT in relation to gaming.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Bingo License and Tax Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 1 as follows:

6 (230 ILCS 25/1) (from Ch. 120, par. 1101)

7 Sec. 1. The Department of Revenue shall, upon  
8 application therefor on forms prescribed by such Department,  
9 and upon the payment of an annual fee of \$200 or a triennial  
10 fee of \$600, and upon a determination by the Department that  
11 the applicant meets all of the qualifications specified in  
12 this Section, issue a license for the conducting of bingo to  
13 any bona fide religious, charitable, labor, fraternal, youth  
14 athletic, senior citizen, educational or veterans'  
15 organization organized in Illinois which operates without  
16 profit to its members, which has been in existence in  
17 Illinois continuously for a period of 5 years immediately  
18 before making application for a license and which has had  
19 during that entire 5 year period a bona fide membership  
20 engaged in carrying out its objects. However, the 5 year  
21 requirement shall be reduced to 2 years, as applied to a  
22 local organization which is affiliated with and chartered by  
23 a national organization which meets the 5 year requirement.  
24 Each annual license expires at midnight, June 30 following  
25 its date of issuance, except that, beginning with applicants  
26 whose licenses expire on June 30, 1983, the Department shall  
27 stagger license expiration dates by dividing the applicants  
28 into 4 groups which are substantially equal in number.  
29 Licenses issued and license fees charged to applicants in  
30 each group shall be in accordance with the following  
31 schedule:

Group No.	License Expiration Date	Fee
1	December 31, 1983	\$100
2	March 31, 1984	\$150
3	June 30, 1984	\$200
4	September 30, 1984	\$250

Following expiration under this schedule, each renewed license shall be in effect for one year from its date of issuance unless suspended or revoked by Department action before that date. After June 30, 1983, every new annual license shall expire one year from the date of issuance unless suspended or revoked and every new triennial license issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2004 shall be in effect for 3 years from its date of issuance unless suspended or revoked by Department action before that date. A licensee may hold only one license and that license is valid for only one location.

For purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply: "Organization": A corporation, agency, partnership, association, firm or other entity consisting of 2 or more persons joined by a common interest or purpose. "Non-profit organization": An organization or institution organized and conducted on a not-for-profit basis with no personal profit inuring to any one as a result of the operation. "Charitable organization": An organization or institution organized and operated to benefit an indefinite number of the public. "Educational organization": An organization or institution organized and operated to provide systematic instruction in useful branches of learning by methods common to schools and institutions of learning which compare favorably in their scope and intensity with the course of study presented in tax-supported schools. "Religious organization": Any church, congregation, society, or organization founded for the purpose of religious worship. "Fraternal organization": An organization of persons, including but not limited to ethnic

1 organizations, having a common interest, organized and  
2 operated exclusively to promote the welfare of its members  
3 and to benefit the general public on a continuing and  
4 consistent basis. "Veterans organization": An organization  
5 comprised of members of which substantially all are  
6 individuals who are veterans or spouses, widows, or widowers  
7 of veterans, the primary purpose of which is to promote the  
8 welfare of its members and to provide assistance to the  
9 general public in such a way as to confer a public benefit.  
10 "Labor organization": An organization composed of labor  
11 unions or workers organized with the objective of betterment  
12 of the conditions of those engaged in such pursuit and the  
13 development of a higher degree of efficiency in their  
14 respective occupations. "Youth athletic organization": An  
15 organization having as its exclusive purpose the promotion  
16 and provision of athletic activities for youth aged 18 and  
17 under. "Senior citizens organization": An organization or  
18 association comprised of members of which substantially all  
19 are individuals who are senior citizens, as defined in  
20 Section 3.05 of the Illinois Act on the Aging, the primary  
21 purpose of which is to promote the welfare of its members.

22 Licensing for the conducting of bingo is subject to the  
23 following restrictions:

24 (1) The license application, when submitted to the  
25 Department of Revenue, must contain a sworn statement  
26 attesting to the not-for-profit character of the  
27 prospective licensee organization, signed by the  
28 presiding officer and the secretary of that organization.

29 (2) The application for license shall be prepared  
30 in accordance with the rules of the Department of  
31 Revenue.

32 (3) Each license shall state which day of the week  
33 and at what location the licensee is permitted to conduct  
34 bingo. The Department may, on special application made

1 by any organization having a bingo license, issue a  
2 special operator's permit for conducting bingo at other  
3 premises and on other days not exceeding 7 consecutive  
4 days, except that a licensee may conduct bingo at the  
5 Illinois State Fair or any county fair held in Illinois  
6 during each day that the fair is in effect; such bingo  
7 games conducted at the Illinois State Fair or a county  
8 fair shall not require a special operator's permit. No  
9 more than 2 special operator's permits may be issued in  
10 one year to any one organization. Any organization,  
11 qualified for a license but not holding one, upon  
12 application and payment of a \$50 fee may receive a  
13 limited license to conduct bingo at no more than 2 indoor  
14 or outdoor festivals in a year for a maximum of 5 days on  
15 each occasion or, upon application and payment of a \$150  
16 fee, may receive a limited license to conduct bingo at no  
17 more than 2 indoor or outdoor festivals in a year for up  
18 to 3 years for a maximum of 5 days on each occasion.  
19 Such limited license shall be prominently displayed at  
20 the site of the bingo games.

21 (4) The licensee shall display a license in a  
22 prominent place in the area where it is to conduct bingo.

23 (5) The proceeds from the license fee imposed by  
24 this Act shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund of  
25 the State Treasury.

26 (6) A license authorizes the licensee to conduct  
27 the game commonly known as bingo, in which prizes are  
28 awarded on the basis of designated numbers or symbols on  
29 a card conforming to numbers or symbols selected at  
30 random.

31 (7) The Director has the power to issue or to  
32 refuse to issue a license permitting a person, firm or  
33 corporation to provide premises for the conduct of bingo;  
34 provided, however, that a municipality shall not be

1 required to obtain a license to provide such premises.  
2 The fee for such providers' license is \$200. A person,  
3 firm or corporation holding such a license may receive  
4 reasonable expenses for providing premises for conducting  
5 bingo. Reasonable expenses shall include only those  
6 expenses defined as reasonable by rules promulgated by  
7 the Department.

8 (8) The Department may issue restricted licenses to  
9 senior citizens organizations. The fee for a restricted  
10 license is \$10 per year or \$30 for 3 years. Restricted  
11 licenses shall be subject to the following conditions:

12 (A) Bingo shall be conducted only at a  
13 facility which is owned by a unit of local  
14 government to which the corporate authorities have  
15 given their approval and which is used to provide  
16 social services or a meeting place to senior  
17 citizens, or in common areas in multi-unit federally  
18 assisted rental housing maintained solely for the  
19 elderly and handicapped;

20 (B) The price paid for a single card shall not  
21 exceed 5 cents;

22 (C) The aggregate retail value of all prizes  
23 or merchandise awarded in any one game of bingo  
24 shall not exceed \$1;

25 (D) No person or organization shall  
26 participate in the management or operation of bingo  
27 under a restricted license if the person or  
28 organization would be ineligible for a license under  
29 this Section;

30 (E) No license is required to provide premises  
31 for bingo conducted under a restricted license; and

32 (F) The Department may, by rule, exempt  
33 restricted licensees from such requirements of this  
34 Act as the Department may deem appropriate.

1           The Director has the power to issue a license permitting  
2 an Illinois person, firm or corporation to sell, lease or  
3 distribute to any organization licensed to conduct bingo  
4 games or to any licensed bingo supplier all cards, boards,  
5 sheets, markers, pads and all other supplies, devices and  
6 equipment designed for use in the play of bingo. No person,  
7 firm or corporation shall sell, lease or distribute bingo  
8 supplies or equipment without having first obtained a license  
9 therefor upon written application made, verified and filed  
10 with the Department in the form prescribed by the rules and  
11 regulations of the Department. The fee for such license is  
12 \$200.

13           Applications for providers' and suppliers' licenses shall  
14 be made in writing in accordance with Department rules. Each  
15 providers' or suppliers' license is valid for one year from  
16 date of issuance, unless suspended or revoked by Department  
17 action before that date.

18           The following are ineligible for any license under this  
19 Act:

20           (a) any person who has been convicted of a felony;

21           (b) any person who has been convicted of a  
22 violation of Article 28 of the "Criminal Code of 1961";

23           (c) any person found gambling, participating in  
24 gambling or knowingly permitting gambling on premises  
25 where bingo is being conducted;

26           (d) any firm or corporation in which a person  
27 defined in (a), (b) or (c) has a proprietary, equitable  
28 or credit interest, or in which such person is active or  
29 employed;

30           (e) any organization in which a person defined in  
31 (a), (b) or (c) is an officer, director, or employee,  
32 whether compensated or not;

33           (f) any organization in which a person defined in  
34 (a), (b) or (c) is to participate in the management or

1 operation of a bingo game.

2 (Source: P.A. 87-758.)

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July  
4 1, 2004.