

## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

H.P. 113 - L.D. 131

**An Act To Permit a Veterans Organization To Lease Its Facility to an Organization That Is Registered To Operate Beano or Bingo Games without Obtaining a Commercial Beano Hall Permit**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** this Act exempts a veterans organization from the requirement to obtain a commercial beano hall permit in order to lease its facility to an organization registered to operate "beano" or "bingo" games; and

**Whereas,** it is necessary that this Act take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to ensure that veterans organizations that rent their facilities for "beano" or "bingo" games during the summer may do so without obtaining the permit required under current law; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §313-C, sub-§1, ¶C,** as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJ, §7, is amended to read:

C. A bona fide nonprofit, charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans organization that has been in existence and founded, chartered or organized in the State for at least 2 years prior to its registration; and

**Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §328, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJ, §29, is further amended to read:

**1. Permit required.** An individual, corporation, partnership or unincorporated association may not rent or lease space for profit to a ~~licensee~~ an organization registered under section 313-C to hold, conduct or operate "Beano" or "Bingo" unless a commercial beano hall permit is obtained from the Gambling Control Unit.

**Sec. 3. 17 MRSA §328, sub-§§6 and 7,** as enacted by PL 1999, c. 74, §7, are amended to read:

**6. Membership in registered organization.** The permittee or the permittee's employee may not be a member of a ~~licensee~~ an organization registered under section 313-C renting or leasing the commercial beano hall.

**7. Rent or lease amount.** The permittee shall charge a ~~licensee~~ registrant under section 313-C fair market value and may not charge based on the percentage of profit ~~which~~ that the licensee registrant makes for the rent or lease of a commercial beano hall.

**Sec. 4. 17 MRSA §328, sub-§8,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJJ, §30, is further amended to read:

**8. Exceptions.** The requirements of this section do not apply to an agricultural fair association that qualifies for registration and operates "beano" or "bingo" games pursuant to section 313. The requirements of this section do not apply to a veterans organization that leases its facility to another organization that is registered to operate "beano" or "bingo" games pursuant to section 313.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.