



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 147

S.P. 76

In Senate, January 10, 2023

An Act to Increase the Amount of Money Allowed to Be Raised for a Charitable Purpose by Certain Raffles

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAFOUNTAIN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §1836, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 119, §2, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Tournament.** The organization licensed to conduct a tournament game under this
5 section shall display the rules of the tournament game and the license issued. The
6 maximum number of players allowed is 100 unless the tournament game is held on
7 premises owned by the licensee, in which case the maximum number of players allowed is
8 300. Winners are determined by a process of elimination. The use of currency is prohibited
9 as part of tournament game play. The maximum entry fee to play in the tournament game
10 is \$100, except the organization may add to the player entry fee to defray the cost of the
11 license fee, as long as the total additional amount collected from all players does not exceed
12 \$125. Only one entry fee is permitted per person. A tournament game must be completed
13 within 48 hours. Other games of chance on the premises are prohibited during a tournament
14 game, except for high-hand competitions under subsection 7, lucky seven or similar sealed
15 tickets and no more than one 50/50 raffle per tournament with a prize value up to ~~\$1,000~~
16 \$2,000. All prizes awarded in accordance with this subsection must be paid in cash or by
17 check.

18 **Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §1837-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 129, §3, is further
19 amended to read:

20 **4. Raffle with a noncash prize of up to ~~\$75,000~~ \$125,000 or a cash prize of up to**
21 **\$20,000 conducted by eligible organization.** An eligible organization as described in
22 section 1832, subsection 2 may register with the Gambling Control Unit to conduct a raffle
23 in which the total value of the prize or prizes awarded to the holder of a winning chance or
24 to the holders of the winning chances does not exceed:

25 A. ~~Seventy-five~~ One hundred twenty-five thousand dollars that is not in the form of
26 cash and may not be exchanged for cash; or

27 B. Twenty thousand dollars in cash, with no more than one \$10,000 cash prize for the
28 holder of a winning chance.

29 At the time of registration, the eligible organization shall state a verifiable charitable
30 purpose that the proceeds of the raffle are dedicated to benefit.

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill increases the amount of a noncash prize that can be offered by an eligible
33 organization in a raffle and the amount of the prize value for a 50/50 raffle held during a
34 game of chance tournament.