

# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE 

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

## Legislative Document

No. 2213
S.P. 947

In Senate, February 15, 2024

## An Act to Support Veterans' Organizations and Other Nonprofit Organizations and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes by Updating Electronic Gambling Laws

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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DARES M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor and Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, President JACKSON of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives: BOYER of Poland, SUPICA of Bangor, TERRY of Gorham.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
Sec. 1. $\mathbf{1 7}$ MRSA §314-A, sub-§1, $\llbracket \mathbf{A}$, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJJ, $\S 9$, is further amended to read:
A. The Gambling Control Unit may also issue, to a federally recognized Indian tribe, licenses to sell lucky seven or other similar sealed tickets in accordance with section 324-A.
Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §314-A, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJJ, $\S 10$, is further amended to read:

1-A. Sealed tickets. The Gambling Control Unit may also accept a registration from a federally recognized Indian tribe licensed under this section to sell lucky seven or other similar sealed tickets in aceordance with section 324-A, including electronic versions of lucky seven or similar sealed tickets. The licensee may operate a dispenser electronic lucky seven devices to sell the lucky seven or ether similar sealed tickets. As used in this subsection, "dispenser" "electronic lucky seven device" means a mechanical or electrical device or machine that, upon the insertion of money, credit, a voucher or something of value, dispenses printed displays electronic lucky seven or ether similar sealed tickets. The element of chance must be provided by the electronic ticket itself, not by the dispenser. The Gambling Control Unit may adopt rules to facilitate the use of dispensers electronic lucky seven devices. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 3. $\mathbf{1 7}$ MRSA §324-A, sub-§2, $\boldsymbol{\|} \mathbf{C}$, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJJ, §25, is further amended to read:
C. Lucky seven or similar sealed tickets may be sold when that game of chance is registered with the Gambling Control Unit and when a valid license or registration certificate is properly displayed. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section and section 312 , lucky seven games may be conducted during the period beginning 2 hours before and ending 2 hours after a "beano" game at any time.
Notwithstanding any other rule, lucky seven or other similar sealed tickets may be sold that have a sale value of $\$ 1$ or less, and a person who sells or distributes "beano" cards or materials used to play "beano" prior to the conduct of "beano" as a volunteer, as provided in this section, is permitted to play in the "beano" game.
Sec. 4. $\mathbf{1 7}$ MRSA §1831, sub-§3-A is enacted to read:
3-A. Electronic lucky seven device. "Electronic lucky seven device" means a mechanical or electrical device or machine that, upon the insertion of money, credit, a voucher or something of value, displays electronic lucky seven or similar sealed tickets.

Sec. 5. $\mathbf{1 7}$ MRSA $\S 1831$, sub-§8-A is enacted to read:
8-A. Lucky seven or similar sealed tickets. "Lucky seven or similar sealed tickets" means tickets or cards with preprinted symbols, numbers or other figures that are hidden by an opaque removable material or electronic representations of such tickets or cards that are displayed to a player using an electronic lucky seven device. Each ticket or card represents a chance to win a specific single prize or specific single set of prizes. A winning
ticket or card contains a predetermined winning configuration of symbols, numbers or other figures.

Sec. 6. 17 MRSA $\S 1832$, sub- $\S 9$ is enacted to read:
9. Electronic lucky seven devices. The Gambling Control Unit may issue a license to operate electronic lucky seven devices to any eligible organization described in subsection 2. The Gambling Control Unit may adopt rules to facilitate the use of electronic lucky seven devices.
A. Electronic lucky seven devices may be operated only for the exclusive benefit of the licensee, except that up to $50 \%$ of the gross revenue from the operation of the devices may be paid to the distributor as a rental fee and for service and repair of the devices. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, a licensee may rent or lease an electronic lucky seven device from a distributor.
B. No more than 9 electronic lucky seven devices may be operated on the licensee's premises. A licensee shall operate at least one redemption kiosk for the redemption of electronic lucky seven vouchers.
C. A licensee may operate an electronic lucky seven device only on the licensee's premises.
D. Each electronic lucky seven deal must contain a fixed number of tickets. The maximum number of electronic lucky seven or similar sealed tickets per deal may not exceed 25,000.
E. An electronic lucky seven device licensed under this subsection may not be operated in a manner that meets the definition of "illegal gambling machine" in Title 17-A, section 952, subsection 5-A.

Sec. 7. 17 MRSA $\S 1834$, sub-§8 is enacted to read:
8. Operation of electronic lucky seven devices. The fee for a license or registration to operate electronic lucky seven devices is $\$ 700$ for a calendar year.

Sec. 8. 17-A MRSA §952, sub-§5-A, $\llbracket C$, as amended by PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. B, $\S 11$, is further amended to read:
C. That is not a machine that a person may lawfully operate pursuant to a license that
has been issued under Title 17, chapter 62 or that is operated by the Department of
Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery
Operations; and
Sec. 9. 17-A MRSA §952, sub-§5-A, đD, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, $\S 7$ and affected by Pt. B, $\S 11$, is amended to read:
D. That is not a slot machine registered pursuant to Title 8 , section 1020 and owned by a slot machine distributor licensed pursuant to Title 8, section 1013;-; and

Sec. 10. 17-A MRSA §952, sub-§5-A, $\| \mathbf{E}$ is enacted to read:
E. That is not an electronic lucky seven device licensed or registered pursuant to Title 17 , section 1832 and used by either an eligible organization licensed or registered pursuant to Title 17 , section 1832 , subsection 9 or a federally recognized Indian tribe
licensed or registered to operate electronic lucky seven devices to sell electronic lucky seven or similar sealed tickets pursuant to Title 17, section 314-A, subsection 1-A.

## SUMMARY

This bill updates laws related to the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit's licensing and fees for selling lucky seven or similar sealed tickets to include electronic versions. It also places restrictions on the number, location and operation of electronic lucky seven devices and requires licensees to operate at least one kiosk for the redemption of electronic lucky seven vouchers. The bill also adds definitions of "electronic lucky seven device" and "lucky seven or similar sealed tickets."

The bill also removes the restriction that allows the sale of lucky seven or similar sealed tickets only during the period beginning 2 hours before and ending 2 hours after a "beano" game.


[^0]:    Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

