

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Increase Gaming Opportunities for
Charitable Fraternal and Veterans' Organizations'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §1001, sub-§5-C is enacted to read:

5-C. Charitable nonprofit organization. "Charitable nonprofit organization" means a fraternal beneficiary society, order or association exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(8), a domestic fraternal society, order or association exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(10) or a veterans' organization exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(19) that:

A. As of October 1, 2012 has been conducting gaming under Title 17, chapter 13-A or 62 for at least 2 consecutive years; and

B. Has owned or leased for a minimum of 2 consecutive years the building that serves as the primary location of the organization's administrative operations and where the slot machine will be operated.

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §1011, sub-§2-B is enacted to read:

2-B. Charitable nonprofit organizations eligible for slot machine operator license.
Beginning October 1, 2013, the board may accept an application for a license to operate a slot machine from a charitable nonprofit organization located in the State. The application process is governed by this subsection.

A. The organization shall submit an application demonstrating that it is a charitable nonprofit organization eligible for a license to operate a slot machine. A refundable administrative deposit of \$5,000 must accompany the application. The organization must:

(1) Be able to demonstrate that a majority of the revenue, after deductions for reasonable expenses, generated from gaming conducted under Title 17, chapter 13-A or 62 has been used for the charitable purpose of the organization;

(2) Be able to demonstrate that the building in which the slot machine will be operated is located in a municipality that has approved, either by the voters of the municipality or the municipal officers, the operation of slot machines;

(3) Be able to demonstrate that it has at least \$2,000 in cash reserved in a segregated account for each slot machine the organization intends to operate if issued a license; and

(4) Meet other criteria established by the board pursuant to rule regarding the licensing and operation of slot machines, including, but not limited to, a requirement that the organization identify and submit to the board a list of the charitable purposes for which the revenue from the operation of the slot machine will be used.

B. The board may not issue a license to a charitable nonprofit organization unless that organization demonstrates compliance with the qualifications and requirements of sections 1016 and 1019 and demonstrates that there is no other electronic video machine or similar machine, as defined by Title 17, section 1831, on the premises where the slot machine will be operated. As used in this paragraph, "electronic video machine or similar machine" does not include a machine that dispenses preprinted lucky seven or similar sealed tickets that the charitable nonprofit organization is licensed to sell under Title 17, chapter 62.

C. If at any time the number of applications received by the board exceeds the number of slot machine licenses that may be granted pursuant to section 1020, subsection 3, paragraph D, the board may use a lottery system, as developed by rule, to determine the order in which the applications will be considered.

D. Prior to October 1, 2013, a charitable nonprofit organization that seeks to obtain a license to operate a slot machine may file a declaration of intent with the board, accompanied by a \$250 fee. The declaration of intent must include the following:

(1) The name and address of the treasurer of the charitable nonprofit organization and the name of at least one official on the governing board of the charitable nonprofit organization who will submit the application to the board;

(2) The deed, rental agreement or lease agreement for the premises where the charitable nonprofit organization intends to operate the slot machine;

(3) State and federal tax returns of the charitable nonprofit organization for the immediately prior 2 calendar years; and

(4) Copies of disposition of funds reports from the operation of games of chance or beano conducted by the charitable nonprofit organization for the immediately prior 2 calendar years.

This paragraph is repealed October 1, 2013.

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §1011, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2005, c. 663, §6, is further amended to read:

4. Requirement for license; agreement with municipality where slot machines are located. AExcept for operators who are charitable nonprofit organizations, a slot machine operator shall enter into an agreement with the municipality where the slot machine operator's slot machines are located that provides for revenue sharing or other compensation, including, but not limited to, a provision requiring the preparation, in conjunction with the municipality, of a security plan for the premises on which the slot machines are located. The revenue-sharing agreement must provide for a minimum payment to the municipality of 3% of the net slot machine income derived from the machines located in the municipality.

Sec. 4. 8 MRSA §1016, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by IB 2009, c. 2, §33, is further amended to read:

D. In the case of a person who is not a charitable nonprofit organization applying to be a slot machine operator or casino operator, the person has sufficient knowledge and experience in the business of operating slot machines or casinos to effectively operate the slot machine facilities or casino to which the license application relates in accordance with this chapter and the rules and standards adopted under this chapter;

Sec. 5. 8 MRSA §1016, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:

3. Applicant other than individual. If the person, other than a charitable nonprofit organization, required to meet the minimum qualifications and suitability requirements specified in subsections 1 and 2 is a business organization, the key executives, directors, officers, partners, shareholders, creditors, owners and associates of the person must meet the suitability requirements specified in subsection 2. For a charitable nonprofit organization required to meet the minimum qualifications and suitability requirements specified in subsections 1 and 2, at least 2 officers of the governing board of the organization, one of whom must be the treasurer, must meet the suitability requirements specified in subsection 2.

Sec. 6. 8 MRSA §1017, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Exception for charitable nonprofit organization. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection 1 regarding for whom the information must be supplied, an application submitted by a charitable nonprofit organization must include the information required by subsection 1 for at least one officer with decision-making authority in the organization and the treasurer of the organization.

Sec. 7. 8 MRSA §1018, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2011, c. 417, §4, is further amended to read:

1. Fees. The application fee for a license and the annual fee for a registered slot machine or table game under this chapter are as set out in this subsection.

A. The initial registration fee for a registered slot machine is \$100. The annual renewal fee is \$100 for each registered slot machine.

A-1. The initial registration fee for a registered table game is \$100. The annual renewal fee is \$100 for each registered table game.

B. The initial application fee for a slot machine distributor license is \$200,000. The annual renewal fee is \$75,000.

B-1. The initial application fee for a table game distributor license is \$5,000. The annual renewal fee is \$1,000.

C. ~~The~~ Except as provided in paragraph C-2, the initial application fee for a slot machine operator license is \$200,000. ~~The, and the~~ annual renewal fee is \$75,000 plus an amount, set by rules of the board, equal to the cost to the board of licensing slot machine operators and determined by dividing the costs of administering the slot machine operator licenses by the total number of slot machine operators licensed by the board.

C-1. The initial application fee for a casino operator license is \$225,000, except that the initial application fee for an applicant that is a commercial track that was licensed to operate slot machines as of January 1, 2011 is \$25,000. The annual renewal fee is \$80,000 plus an amount, set by rules of the board, equal to the cost to the board of licensing casino operators and determined by dividing the costs of administering the casino operator licenses by the total number of casino operators licensed by the board. In addition, a casino operator shall pay an initial gaming table fee of \$100,000 for the privilege to operate each gaming table for a period of 20 years as long as the casino operator is licensed. Each gaming table is also subject to an annual gaming table renewal fee of \$1,000. The gaming table fees authorize the casino operator to conduct any authorized table game at the gaming table during the 20-year period. A casino licensed in accordance with section 1011, subsection 2-A, paragraph A is not required to pay the gaming table fees until after one calendar year of table game operation. Fees collected in accordance with this paragraph must be deposited to the Gambling Control Board administrative expenses Other Special Revenue Funds account, which is a nonlapsing dedicated account.

C-2. The initial application fee for a slot machine operator license for a charitable nonprofit organization is \$1,000. The annual renewal fee is \$350.

D. The annual application fee for a license for a gambling services vendor is \$2,000.

E. The initial application fee for an employee license under section 1015 is \$250. The annual renewal fee is \$25.

In addition to the application fee for a license or annual fee for a registered slot machine or table game, the board may charge a one-time application fee for a license or registration listed in paragraphs A to C-1, D and E in an amount equal to the projected cost of processing the application and performing any background investigations. If the actual cost exceeds the projected cost, an additional fee may be charged to meet the actual cost. If the projected cost exceeds the actual cost, the difference may be refunded to the applicant. All fees collected pursuant to this section must be deposited directly to the General Fund, except that \$25,000 of the annual renewal fee for a slot machine operator or casino operator must be deposited to the Gross Slot Income Other Special Revenue Fund account within the Gambling Control

Board to be transferred to the municipality in which the slot machine facility or casino is operated, in accordance with subsection 2. All application and registration fees are nonrefundable and are due upon submission of the application.

Sec. 8. 8 MRSA §1019, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2011, c. 417, §5, is further amended to read:

6. Proximity of licensed casinos and slot machine facilities. AExcept for a license issued to a charitable nonprofit organization to operate a slot machine, a casino operator license or slot machine operator license may not be issued under this chapter to operate any casino or slot machine facility located within 100 miles of a licensed casino or slot machine facility. This subsection does not prohibit a commercial track that was licensed to operate slot machines on January 1, 2011 from obtaining a casino operator license for the same facility where slot machines were operated as of January 1, 2011.

Sec. 9. 8 MRSA §1019, sub-§7, as amended by PL 2011, c. 417, §6, is further amended to read:

7. Statewide and county referendum; municipal vote. After January 1, 2011, anya proposed casino or slot machine facility may not be issued a license unless it has been approved by a statewide referendum vote and a vote of the municipal officers or municipality in which the casino or slot machine facility is to be located, except that a commercial track licensed to operate slot machines on January 1, 2011 is only required, as a condition to obtain a casino license, to receive approval to operate a casino by means of a referendum of the voters of the county in which the commercial track is located. This subsection does not apply to the issuance of a license to a charitable nonprofit organization to operate a slot machine under section 1011, subsection 2-B.

Sec. 10. 8 MRSA §1019, sub-§§8 and 9 are enacted to read:

8. Maintenance contract required for charitable nonprofit organizations licensed to operate slot machines. A charitable nonprofit organization licensed to operate slot machines in accordance with this chapter shall enter into a contract with a licensed slot machine distributor or, with approval of the board, a 3rd party for the maintenance of slot machines.

9. Segregated account for net slot machine income distribution by charitable nonprofit organizations. In accordance with rules established by the board, a charitable nonprofit organization licensed in accordance with this chapter shall establish a segregated account for the deposit of net slot machine income as required by section 1036, subsection 2-D. The board may require that the segregated account for the deposit of net slot machine income include authorization for the board to make withdrawals to ensure compliance with the distributions required by section 1036, subsection 2-D.

Sec. 11. 8 MRSA §1020, sub-§2, ¶G, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:

G. Must have a minimum average daily aggregate payback percentage of 89% computed for all slot machines operated at each slot machine facility on a weekly basis. A slot machine operated by a charitable nonprofit organization must have a minimum average daily aggregate payback percentage of 80% computed for all slot machines operated at the facility of each charitable nonprofit organization on a weekly basis; and

Sec. 12. 8 MRSA §1020, sub-§3, as amended by IB 2009, c. 2, §37, is further amended to read:

3. Limits on total slot machines. The board shall determine the number of slot machines to be registered in the State. The board shall make this determination based upon the minimum net slot machine income, when distributed pursuant to section 1036, necessary to maintain the harness horse racing industry in this State, except that:

- A. The total number of slot machines registered in the State may not exceed 3,0003,250; and
- B. A slot machine operator may not operate more than 1,500 slot machines at any one commercial track and a casino operator may not operate more than 1,500 slot machines at a casino-;
- C. A charitable nonprofit organization licensed under this chapter may not operate more than 5 slot machines on the licensed premises of that charitable nonprofit organization; and
- D. Until October 1, 2014, the total number of slot machines operated by all charitable nonprofit organizations licensed in accordance with this chapter may not exceed 100. Beginning October 1, 2014, the total number of slot machines operated by all charitable nonprofit organizations licensed in accordance with this chapter may not exceed 250.

Sec. 13. 8 MRSA §1031-A is enacted to read:

§ 1031-A. Charitable nonprofit organizations; age limit on slot machine use; play limited to members and guests; access by minors; credit prohibited

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1031, the following provisions apply to slot machines operated by a charitable nonprofit organization.

- 1. Minimum age.** A charitable nonprofit organization slot machine operator may not permit a person under 21 years of age to play a slot machine.
- 2. Play limited to members and guests.** When slot machines are operated under this section, there must be one member of the charitable nonprofit organization present for every 2 nonmembers present.
- 3. Placement of slot machines.** A charitable nonprofit organization slot machine operator shall place slot machines in an area where persons under 21 years of age are prohibited except for occasional events when slot machines are not operational.
- 4. Credit prohibited.** A charitable nonprofit organization slot machine operator may not allow the use of a credit card or debit card by a person to play a slot machine.

Sec. 14. 8 MRSA §1035-B is enacted to read:

§ 1035-B. Location of slot machines operated by charitable nonprofit organizations

Notwithstanding section 1035, a slot machine operated by a charitable nonprofit organization may be located only on the premises of that charitable nonprofit organization licensed in accordance with this chapter.

Sec. 15. 8 MRSA §1036, sub-§2-D is enacted to read:

2-D. Distribution of slot machine income from a charitable nonprofit organization. A charitable nonprofit organization slot machine operator shall collect and distribute 30% of net slot machine revenue from slot machines operated by the charitable nonprofit organization to the board for distribution by the board as follows:

- A. Ten percent of the net slot machine income must be deposited to the Gambling Control Board administrative expenses Other Special Revenue Funds account, which is a nonlapsing dedicated account;
- B. Eight percent of the net slot machine income must be deposited to the General Fund;
- C. Two percent of the net slot machine income must be credited to the Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund established by Title 5, section 20006-B; and
- D. Ten percent of the net slot machine income must be forwarded directly to the municipality where the slot machines are located.

Net revenue from the operation of slot machines by charitable nonprofit organizations must be used to support the charitable purposes identified to the board except the net revenue may be used to pay compensation and defray expenses in the same manner as prescribed for revenue from games of chance by Title 17, section 1838.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and is the majority report of the committee. This amendment permits the Gambling Control Board, after October 1, 2013, to issue a license to a charitable nonprofit organization that is a fraternal organization or a veterans' organization that is tax-exempt under the federal Internal Revenue Code to operate up to 5 slot machines at a facility that is owned or leased by the organization and serves as its primary headquarters for fulfilling its charitable mission. The organization must be able to demonstrate that it has a cash reserve of \$2,000 for each machine the organization intends to operate. An organization that wishes to apply prior to October 1, 2013 may file a declaration of intent to apply with the Gambling Control Board. An application must include a refundable \$5,000 deposit. The initial application fee for a slot machine operator license under this amendment is \$1,000, and the annual renewal fee is \$350. A slot machine operated by a charitable nonprofit organization is subject to the same central site monitoring that applies to casinos and slot machine facilities at harness racing tracks. The total number of slot machines available to be operated by nonprofit organizations statewide is 250. Ten percent of the net slot machine income is required to be deposited directly with the Gambling Control Board for administrative expenses and 8% goes directly to the General Fund. Another 10% goes to the host municipality and 2% is dedicated to gambling addiction prevention and treatment. The board

may require a charitable nonprofit organization that is licensed to operate slot machines to establish a separate account, from which the board may withdraw funds, to distribute the net revenue percentages. The remaining revenue generated from the slot machines must be used to support the charitable purposes of the fraternal organization or veterans' service organization.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)