

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

## **An Act To Allow Cash Prizes for Certain Raffles Conducted by Charitable Organizations**

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

**Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §1837-A, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §25, is amended to read:

**4. Raffle with a noncash prize up to \$75,000 conducted by eligible organization; cash prizes up to \$20,000.** An eligible organization as described in section 1832, subsection 2 may conduct a raffle in which the total value of the prize offered to the winning chance does not exceed \$75,000 upon the acceptance of a registration by the Gambling Control Unit. The registration must state a verifiable charitable purpose for which the proceeds of the raffle are dedicated to benefit. If the raffle is conducted in a manner in which there are multiple winning chances, the total value of all prizes offered may not exceed a value of \$75,000. A noncash prize for a raffle conducted under this subsection ~~may not be in the form of cash and~~ may not be exchanged for cash. The total amount of cash prizes that may be awarded for a raffle conducted under this subsection may not exceed \$20,000 with no more than one \$10,000 prize for the holder of a winning chance. An eligible organization may not conduct more than one raffle under this subsection in a 12-month period.

### **SUMMARY**

Current law allows an eligible organization that has registered with the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety to conduct one raffle in a 12-month period awarding noncash prizes, up to \$75,000 in value. This bill allows that raffle to include total cash prizes not exceeding \$20,000 with no more than one \$10,000 prize for the holder of a winning chance.