

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 everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §311, sub-§5-A is enacted to read:

5-A. Member. "Member" means a bona fide member of a firm, corporation, association, organization, department or class or a combination thereof who has been duly admitted as a member according to the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances or bylaws governing membership in the firm, corporation, association, organization, department, class or combination thereof.

Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §313-C, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJ, §7, is amended to read:

1. Registration eligibility. The Gambling Control Unit may accept registrations from the following organizations to conduct beano ~~to be conducted by duly authorized members~~ for the exclusive benefit of the organization:

A. A volunteer fire department;

B. An agricultural fair association;

C. A bona fide nonprofit, charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or ~~veterans~~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

D. An auxiliary organization associated with an organization, department or association described in this subsection that has been in existence for at least 2 years prior to submitting a registration to conduct beano to the Gambling Control Unit.

The Gambling Control Unit may accept a registration submitted by an organization described in paragraph C that has been in existence for less than 2 years in the State if the organization has a charter from a national organization.

Sec. 3. 17 MRSA §313-C, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Member must exercise exclusive control of game. An organization registered under this section may not conduct beano games unless a person at least 18 years of age, who has been a member of good standing of the registrant for at least 2 years, exercises exclusive control of each game played. Other individuals, who are not required to be members of the registrant, may assist the member in operating the game. For purposes of this subsection, a member exercises exclusive control if the member has the final decision-making authority to determine the winner of the game and to address any challenges to the operation of the game.

Sec. 4. 17 MRSA §319, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. JJJJ, §21, is repealed.

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Like the bill, the amendment removes the requirement in current law that beano or bingo games conducted by an organization such as a volunteer fire department, agricultural fair association or nonprofit association must be conducted entirely by members of the organization. Under the amendment, the beano or bingo games must be conducted under the exclusive control of an adult member of the organization, who may be assisted by other individuals. The amendment defines "member" to mean an individual duly admitted as a member according to the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances or bylaws governing the organization.

The amendment also makes a technical change to the laws governing beano and bingo to clarify that a charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans' organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct beano or bingo must be a bona fide nonprofit organization.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)