



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 407

S.P. 134

In Senate, February 7, 2017

An Act To Simplify the Laws Regarding Games of Chance

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator COLLINS of York.

Cosponsored by Representative HANINGTON of Lincoln and

Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, MASON of Androscoggin, Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, FARRIN of Norridgewock, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, TURNER of Burlington, WHITE of Washburn.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §1831, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 420, Pt. A, §11, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **5. Game of chance.** "Game of chance" means a game, contest, scheme or device in
5 which:

6 A. A person stakes or risks something of value for the opportunity to win something
7 of value;

8 B. ~~The rules of operation or play require an event the result of which~~ outcome is
9 solely determined by chance, outside the control of the contestant or participant; and

10 C. Chance enters as an element that influences the outcome in a manner that cannot
11 be eliminated through the application of skill.

12 ~~For the purposes of this subsection, "an event the result of which is determined by~~
13 ~~chance" includes but is not limited to a shuffle of a deck of cards, a roll of a die or dice or~~
14 ~~a random drawing or generation of an object that may include, but is not limited to, a~~
15 ~~card, a die, a number or simulations of any of these. A shuffle of a deck of cards, a roll of~~
16 ~~a die, a random drawing or generation of an object or some other event the result of~~
17 ~~which is determined by chance that is employed to determine impartially the initial order~~
18 ~~of play in a game, contest, scheme or device does not alone make a game, contest,~~
19 ~~scheme or device a game of chance.~~ For purposes of this chapter, beano, bingo, a savings
20 promotion raffle and table games as defined in Title 8, section 1001, subsection 43-A are
21 not games of chance.

22 **Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §1836, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 325, §1, is further
23 amended to read:

24 The Chief of the State Police may issue a license under this section to an organization
25 eligible to conduct beano games under chapter 13-A and games of chance under this
26 chapter to conduct up to 2 tournament games per month. ~~For purposes of this section,~~
27 ~~"tournament game" means a game of chance played using a deck of cards with rules~~
28 ~~similar to poker or other card games.~~

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill specifies, for the purposes of the laws governing games of chance, that
31 games of chance are those games in which the outcome is solely determined by chance,
32 outside the control of the contestant or participant.