

SENATE, No. 501

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator CHRIS A. BROWN

District 2 (Atlantic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Diegnan and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Permits conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the types of raffle games permitted to be
2 conducted by licensed organizations in this State and
3 supplementing the “Raffles Licensing Law,” P.L.1954, c.5
4 (C.5:8-50 et seq.).

5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

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9 1. a. The Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission
10 shall adopt regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure
11 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), authorizing licensees to
12 hold and conduct Queen of Hearts raffle games. The control
13 commission may specify any requirement applicable to the conduct
14 of Queen of Hearts raffle games that the control commission may
15 deem necessary in accordance with this section.

16 b. A “Queen of Hearts raffle” means a raffle game utilizing a
17 Queen of Hearts raffle board onto which 54 playing cards can be
18 placed facedown, side-by-side, and held securely by a locking,
19 transparent cover, which playing cards shall be thoroughly shuffled
20 and from which the participant holding the winning raffle ticket
21 drawn at random from a raffle ticket drum or receptacle shall be
22 entitled to “Search for the Queen of Hearts” by selecting one of the
23 facedown playing cards.

24 When the playing card selected is not the Queen of Hearts, the
25 card shall be placed out of play, and the holder of the winning raffle
26 ticket selecting that card shall be immediately awarded a cash prize
27 valued according to the schedule set forth in regulation by the
28 Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission. The raffle
29 drawings shall be conducted weekly until a person selects the
30 Queen of Hearts. When the playing card selected is the Queen of
31 Hearts, the holder of the winning raffle ticket selecting that card
32 shall be awarded 50 percent of the prize, with the remainder of the
33 prize retained by the licensee as proceeds from conducting the
34 raffle.

35 c. The licensee may use the net proceeds derived from the
36 conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games pursuant to and in
37 accordance with this section and the rules and regulations
38 promulgated by the control commission for capital improvements to
39 a facility owned by the licensee in accordance with section 2 of
40 P.L.2002, c.115 (C.5:8-51.4).

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42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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45 **STATEMENT**

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47 This bill permits raffle licensees to conduct of Queen of Hearts
48 raffle games.

1 Under current law, municipalities where voters have approved a
2 referendum to allow raffle games may license eligible organizations
3 to conduct these games. The Legalized Games of Chance Control
4 Commission in the Department of Law and Public Safety regulates
5 the conduct of these games.

6 Under Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2, subparagraph B of
7 the State Constitution, and under the Raffles Licensing Law,
8 eligible organizations may apply for a license to conduct raffles.
9 Bona fide organizations or associations of veterans; churches or
10 religious congregations and religious organizations; charitable,
11 educational, and fraternal organizations; civic and service clubs;
12 senior citizen associations and clubs; officially recognized
13 volunteer fire companies; and officially recognized volunteer first
14 aid or rescue squads are eligible to apply for a license. These
15 organizations must dedicate the entire net proceeds of the raffle
16 games to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or public-
17 spirited uses. Organizations or associations of veterans, and senior
18 citizen associations and clubs, may also use these proceeds to
19 support their organizations.

20 This bill permits eligible organizations to conduct Queen of
21 Hearts raffle games. A “Queen of Hearts raffle” means a raffle
22 game utilizing a Queen of Hearts raffle board onto which 54
23 thoroughly shuffled playing cards are placed facedown, side-by-
24 side. Raffle tickets are placed into a ticket drum or other receptacle
25 and a winning ticket is drawn at random. The participant holding
26 the winning raffle ticket is entitled to “Search for the Queen of
27 Hearts” by selecting one of the facedown playing cards. When the
28 playing card selected is not the Queen of Hearts, the card is placed
29 out of play, and the person is awarded a cash prize valued according
30 to a certain schedule. The raffle drawings are conducted weekly
31 until a person selects the Queen of Hearts. When a person selects
32 the Queen of Hearts, that person will be awarded 50 percent of the
33 prize, and the remainder of the prize will be retained by the licensee
34 as proceeds from conducting the raffle.

35 The bill specifies that the licensee may use the net proceeds
36 derived from the conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games for
37 capital improvements of the facilities it owns according to existing
38 law. The bill directs the Legalized Games of Chance Control
39 Commission to adopt the necessary rules and regulations for the
40 conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games.