

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PLEASE READ AND RESPOND IMMEDIATELY

To Whom It May Concern:

This is very important information for any lodges, or anyone that is currently conducting bingo games in the state of Virginia. The General Assembly has formed a special Committee for study of Bingo/Pull Tabs. The purpose of this Committee is to review all Department of Charitable Gaming rules and regulations currently in place. There has not been a review since July of 1996. We will keep you updated as the situation warrants, but there is one issue at this time that should be handled immediately.

The General Assembly is proposing that the maximum regular bingo game payouts be increased from the current amount of \$100 to \$250-labeled as House Bill #2053. If passed, this increase could greatly affect the ability of smaller games to continue to operate, and could ultimately result in the cessation of those games. Many bingo game operators would need to increase the charges for their players to play to enable them to make the same profit. Consequently, the increase in prices would most likely result in a diminution in the number of customers for games, and further affect the profit margin. Please realize how this could affect those lodges, and any other organization, that conducts smaller games. The only persons to benefit from this proposed change would be those who operate very large games several times a week.

We suggest you contact the Legislative Committee that is in charge of these changes, whether in writing, via email, or in person. The next committee meeting for this is scheduled for June 22, 2009, so please respond promptly and ensure that the opinions are noted for all. It is an option for you to attend this meeting and voice your opinion on that date. We will be sending out information regarding exact time and location of meeting next week. And, if you feel that the current Department of Charitable Gaming rules and regulations are acceptable without ANY changes, please include that as well in any correspondence with the Committee. We have provided a list of email address at the bottom of this notice for your convenience. Also included is a sample letter you may use, but please feel free to elaborate in any manner you see fit. It may help to actually include a list of organizations and amounts of donations given to your local communities as a result of the mandatory use of proceeds donation requirements, so that they may more clearly see how such an increase could affect not only the individual games, but our state as well.

We will continue to keep you updated on all proposed changes, but we strongly encourage you to act immediately on this issue.

Fraternally,

Wesley I. Crowder

Government Relations

Virginia Moose Association

SAMPLE EMAIL

We, the members of _____, Virginia do hereby express our opposition to any proposal to increase the maximum regular bingo game payouts and urge that the bingo payouts be maintained at the current level of \$100 per game (signature of bingo manager and may include additional signatures in petition form)

EMAIL ADDRESS

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