

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB437

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ **Enrolled**

2. Patron Suit

3. Committee Passed both houses

4. Title Charitable gaming; prohibited practices; exceptions.

5. Summary/Purpose:

Provides that the statutory limits for the award of any bingo prize money shall not apply to bingo games commonly referred to as "Lucky Seven games," described in the bill as games in which prizes are awarded on the basis of designated numbers on the cards conforming to the predetermined pattern of "7" and which numbers are selected at random; provided such games are operated in accordance with department regulations.

The bill further clarifies the nature of "Lucky 7" games, specifies the amount of prizes, specifies that the bingo cards must be sold separately from those used for other games, and requires the gaming organization to account separately for the proceeds from these games.

6. No Fiscal Impact

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications:

"Lucky 7" is a new type of game that is not currently permitted in Virginia, although it is played in other states. To the extent that "Lucky 7" games would prevent "stagnation" within the charitable gaming industry in Virginia and increase the number of players, this bill has the potential to increase general fund revenues. [Charitable gaming organizations operating under permit from the Department of Charitable Gaming (DCG) pay an annual audit fee to the state, which is a percentage of their gross receipts from charitable gaming. These funds are deposited to the general fund.]

"Lucky 7" games would require some additional accounting on the part of the charitable gaming organizations, and therefore this bill also has the potential to slightly increase the workload of the DCG in terms of inspections and enforcement.

Adoption of new regulations by the DCG would be necessary to implement this bill should it be enacted. There could be some costs associated with developing the regulations.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Charitable Gaming (DCG) and all organizations that operate bingo games under permit from the DCG.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

Date: 3/24/04

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cc: Secretary of Administration