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SENATE BILL NO. 1121

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 13, 2009

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-340.26 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of Charitable Gaming; conduct of fifty-fifty raffles.

Patron—Colgan

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-340.26 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-340.26. Sale of raffle tickets; drawings; proceeds of certain raffles not counted as gross

A. Except as provided in subsection B, a qualified organization may sell raffle tickets both in and out of the jurisdiction designated in its permit and shall conduct the drawing within the Commonwealth.

B. A qualified organization may sell raffle tickets for a raffle drawing which will be held outside the Commonwealth, provided the raffle is conducted in accordance with (i) the regulations of the Board and (ii) the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction in which the raffle drawing will be held.

C. Before a prize drawing, each stub or other detachable section of each ticket sold or won through some other authorized charitable game conducted by the same organization holding the raffle, shall be placed into a receptacle from which the winning tickets are drawn. The receptacle shall be designed so

that each ticket placed in it has an equal chance of being drawn.

D. Any raffle, commonly referred to as a "fifty-fifty" raffle, in which half of the gross receipts from players for the raffle are paid as prize money back to the winning player, may be conducted by a qualified organization only at such times as the portion of the premises wherein tickets to the fifty-fifty raffle are sold is open only to members and their guests. The proceeds from such fifty-fifty raffle shall not be included in determining the gross receipts for a qualified organization provided the gaming (i) is limited exclusively to members of the organization and their guests, (ii) is not open to the general public, and (iii) there is no public solicitation or advertisement made regarding such gaming.