

Department of Planning and Budget

2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1278

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Bell

3. Committee: General Laws and Technology

4. Title: Charitable gaming; regulations; Texas Hold'em poker games.

5. Summary: Clarifies that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (the Department) has specific authority to approve and regulate operators of both Texas Hold'em poker games and Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. The bill gives the Department the authority to approve the use of electronic poker tables for use in Texas Hold'em poker games and tournaments and provides that a qualified organization may conduct both Texas Hold'em poker games and tournaments. Current law is unclear as to whether such organization may conduct Texas Hold'em poker games in addition to Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any costs associated with development of regulations and licensing can be absorbed within current resources of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. At this time, the amount of revenue that may be collected from the license application fees is unknown. Revenue generated from charitable gaming fees is deposited to the state's general fund.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.