

Department of Planning and Budget
2021 Special Session I - Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1278

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

2. Patron: Bell

3. Committee: General Laws

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 provides that a qualified organization may conduct both Texas Hold'em poker games and tournaments, but at no time shall conduct more than three such games or tournaments simultaneously. Current law is unclear as to whether such organization may conduct Texas Hold'em poker games in addition to Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. The bill requires reenactment by the 2022 Session of the General Assembly to become effective.

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.