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## SENATE BILL NO. 936

## AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Appropriations  
on February 26, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Petersen)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-334.2, 18.2-340.16, 18.2-340.19, 18.2-340.22, and 18.2-340.31 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-340.28:2; Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-334.2, 18.2-340.16, 18.2-340.19, 18.2-340.22, and 18.2-340.31 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-340.28:2 as follows:

§ 18.2-334.2. Same; bingo games, raffles, duck races, and Texas Hold'em poker tournaments conducted by certain organizations.

Nothing in this article shall apply to any bingo game, instant bingo, network bingo, raffle, or duck race, or Texas Hold'em poker tournament conducted solely by organizations as defined in § 18.2-340.16 which have received a permit as set forth in § 18.2-340.25, or which are exempt from the permit requirement under § 18.2-340.23.

§ 18.2-340.16. Definitions.

As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Bingo" means a specific game of chance played with (i) individual cards having randomly numbered squares ranging from one to 75, (ii) Department-approved electronic devices that display facsimiles of bingo cards and are used for the purpose of marking and monitoring players' cards as numbers are called, or (iii) Department-approved cards, in which prizes are awarded on the basis of designated numbers on such cards conforming to a predetermined pattern of numbers selected at random.

"Board" means the Charitable Gaming Board created pursuant to § 2.2-2455.

"Bona fide member" means an individual who participates in activities of a qualified organization other than such organization's charitable gaming activities.

"Charitable gaming" or "charitable games" means those raffles, Texas Hold'em poker tournaments, and games of chance explicitly authorized by this article.

"Charitable gaming supplies" includes bingo cards or sheets, devices for selecting bingo numbers, instant bingo cards, pull-tab cards and seal cards, playing cards for Texas Hold'em poker, poker chips, and any other equipment or product manufactured for or intended to be used in the conduct of charitable games. However, for the purposes of this article, charitable gaming supplies shall not include items incidental to the conduct of charitable gaming such as markers, wands, or tape.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Conduct" means the actions associated with the provision of a gaming operation during and immediately before or after the permitted activity, which may include, but not be limited to, (i) selling bingo cards or packs, electronic devices, instant bingo or pull-tab cards, or raffle tickets, (ii) calling bingo games, (iii) distributing prizes, and (iv) any other services provided by volunteer workers.

"Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Fair market rental value" means the rent that a rental property will bring when offered for lease by a lessor who desires to lease the property but is not obligated to do so and leased by a lessee under no necessity of leasing.

"Gaming expenses" means prizes, supplies, costs of publicizing gaming activities, audit and administration or permit fees, and a portion of the rent, utilities, accounting and legal fees and such other reasonable and proper expenses as are directly incurred for the conduct of charitable gaming.

"Gross receipts" means the total amount of money generated by an organization from charitable gaming before the deduction of expenses, including prizes.

"Instant bingo," "pull tabs," or "seal cards" means specific games of chance played by the random selection of one or more individually prepacked cards, including Department-approved electronic versions thereof, with winners being determined by the preprinted or predetermined appearance of concealed letters, numbers or symbols that must be exposed by the player to determine wins and losses and may include the use of a seal card which conceals one or more numbers or symbols that have been designated in advance as prize winners. Such cards may be dispensed by electronic or mechanical equipment.

"Jackpot" means a bingo game that the organization has designated on its game program as a jackpot game in which the prize amount is greater than \$100.

"Landlord" means any person or his agent, firm, association, organization, partnership, or corporation,

60 employee, or immediate family member thereof, which owns and leases, or leases any premises devoted  
61 in whole or in part to the conduct of bingo games, and any person residing in the same household as a  
62 landlord.

63 "Management" means the provision of oversight of a gaming operation, which may include, but is  
64 not limited to, the responsibilities of applying for and maintaining a permit or authorization, compiling,  
65 submitting and maintaining required records and financial reports, and ensuring that all aspects of the  
66 operation are in compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations.

67 "Network bingo" means a specific bingo game in which pari-mutuel play is permitted.

68 "Network bingo provider" means a person licensed by the Department to operate network bingo.

69 "Operation" means the activities associated with production of a charitable gaming activity, which  
70 may include, but not be limited to (i) the direct on-site supervision of the conduct of charitable gaming;  
71 (ii) coordination of volunteers; and (iii) all responsibilities of charitable gaming designated by the  
72 organization's management.

73 "Organization" means any one of the following:

74 1. A volunteer fire department or volunteer emergency medical services agency or auxiliary unit  
75 thereof that has been recognized in accordance with § 15.2-955 by an ordinance or resolution of the  
76 political subdivision where the volunteer fire department or volunteer emergency medical services  
77 agency is located as being a part of the safety program of such political subdivision;

78 2. An organization operated exclusively for religious, charitable, community or educational purposes;

79 3. An athletic association or booster club or a band booster club established solely to raise funds for  
80 school-sponsored athletic or band activities for a public school or private school accredited pursuant to  
81 § 22.1-19 or to provide scholarships to students attending such school;

82 4. An association of war veterans or auxiliary units thereof organized in the United States;

83 5. A fraternal association or corporation operating under the lodge system;

84 6. A local chamber of commerce; or

85 7. Any other nonprofit organization that raises funds by conducting raffles that generate annual gross  
86 receipts of \$40,000 or less, provided such gross receipts from the raffle, less expenses and prizes, are  
87 used exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or community purposes.

88 "Pari-mutuel play" means an integrated network operated by a licensee of the Department comprised  
89 of participating charitable organizations for the conduct of network bingo games in which the purchase  
90 of a network bingo card by a player automatically includes the player in a pool with all other players in  
91 the network, and where the prize to the winning player is awarded based on a percentage of the total  
92 amount of network bingo cards sold in a particular network.

93 "Qualified organization" means any organization to which a valid permit has been issued by the  
94 Department to conduct charitable gaming or any organization that is exempt pursuant to § 18.2-340.23.

95 "Raffle" means a lottery in which the prize is won by (i) a random drawing of the name or  
96 prearranged number of one or more persons purchasing chances or (ii) a random contest in which the  
97 winning name or preassigned number of one or more persons purchasing chances is determined by a  
98 race involving inanimate objects floating on a body of water, commonly referred to as a "duck race."

99 "Reasonable and proper business expenses" means business expenses actually incurred by a qualified  
100 organization in the conduct of charitable gaming and not otherwise allowed under this article or under  
101 Board regulations on real estate and personal property tax payments, travel expenses, payments of  
102 utilities and trash collection services, legal and accounting fees, costs of business furniture, fixtures and  
103 office equipment and costs of acquisition, maintenance, repair or construction of an organization's real  
104 property. For the purpose of this definition, salaries and wages of employees whose primary  
105 responsibility is to provide services for the principal benefit of an organization's members shall not  
106 qualify as a business expense. However, payments made pursuant to § 51.1-1204 to the Volunteer  
107 Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Service Award Fund shall be deemed a reasonable and proper  
108 business expense.

109 "Supplier" means any person who offers to sell, sells or otherwise provides charitable gaming  
110 supplies to any qualified organization.

111 "Texas Hold'em poker game" means a variation of poker in which (i) players receive two cards  
112 facedown that may be used individually, (ii) five cards shown faceup are shared among all players in  
113 the game, (iii) players combine any number of their individual cards with the shared cards to make the  
114 highest five-card hand to win the value wagered during the game, and (iv) the ranking of hands and the  
115 rules of the game are governed by the official rules of the Poker Tournament Directors Association.

116 "Texas Hold'em poker tournament" or "tournament" means an organized competition of players (i)  
117 who pay a fixed fee for entry into the competition and for a certain amount of poker chips for use in  
118 the competition; (ii) who may be allowed to pay an additional fee, during set preannounced times of the  
119 competition, to receive additional poker chips for use in the competition; (iii) who may be seated at one  
120 or more tables simultaneously playing Texas Hold'em poker games; (iv) who upon running out of poker  
121 chips are eliminated from the competition; and (v) a pre-set number of whom are awarded prizes of

122 value according to how long such players remain in the competition.

123 **§ 18.2-340.19. Regulations of the Board.**

124 A. The Board shall adopt regulations that:

125 1. Require, as a condition of receiving a permit, that the applicant use a predetermined percentage of  
126 its gross receipts for (i) those lawful religious, charitable, community or educational purposes for which  
127 the organization is specifically chartered or organized or (ii) those expenses relating to the acquisition,  
128 construction, maintenance or repair of any interest in real property involved in the operation of the  
129 organization and used for lawful religious, charitable, community or educational purposes. *In the case of*  
130 *the conduct of Texas Hold'em poker tournaments, the regulations shall provide that the predetermined*  
131 *percentage of gross receipts may be used for expenses related to compensating operators contracted by*  
132 *the qualified organization to administer such events.* The regulation may provide for a graduated scale  
133 of percentages of gross receipts to be used in the foregoing manner based upon factors the Board finds  
134 appropriate to and consistent with the purpose of charitable gaming.

135 2. Specify the conditions under which a complete list of the organization's members who participate  
136 in the management, operation or conduct of charitable gaming may be required in order for the Board to  
137 ascertain the percentage of Virginia residents in accordance with subdivision A 3 of § 18.2-340.24.

138 Membership lists furnished to the Board or Department in accordance with this subdivision shall not  
139 be a matter of public record and shall be exempt from disclosure under the provisions of the Freedom of  
140 Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.).

141 3. Prescribe fees for processing applications for charitable gaming permits. Such fees may reflect the  
142 nature and extent of the charitable gaming activity proposed to be conducted.

143 4. Establish requirements for the audit of all reports required in accordance with § 18.2-340.30.

144 5. Define electronic and mechanical equipment used in the conduct of charitable gaming. Board  
145 regulations shall include capacity for such equipment to provide full automatic daubing as numbers are  
146 called. For the purposes of this subdivision, electronic or mechanical equipment for instant bingo, pull  
147 tabs, or seal cards shall include such equipment that displays facsimiles of instant bingo, pull tabs, or  
148 seal cards and are used solely for the purpose of dispensing or opening such paper or electronic cards,  
149 or both; but shall not include (i) devices operated by dropping one or more coins or tokens into a slot  
150 and pulling a handle or pushing a button or touchpoint on a touchscreen to activate one to three or more  
151 reels marked into horizontal segments by varying symbols, where the predetermined prize amount  
152 depends on how and how many of the symbols line up when the rotating reels come to rest, or (ii) other  
153 similar devices that display flashing lights or illuminations, or bells, whistles, or other sounds, solely  
154 intended to entice players to play.

155 6. Prescribe the conditions under which a qualified organization may (i) provide food and  
156 nonalcoholic beverages to its members who participate in the management, operation or conduct of  
157 bingo; (ii) permit members who participate in the management, operation or conduct of bingo to play  
158 bingo; and (iii) subject to the provisions of subdivision 13 of § 18.2-340.33, permit nonmembers to  
159 participate in the conduct of bingo so long as the nonmembers are under the direct supervision of a  
160 bona fide member of the organization during the bingo game.

161 7. Prescribe the conditions under which a qualified organization may sell raffle tickets for a raffle  
162 drawing that will be held outside the Commonwealth pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-340.26.

163 8. Prescribe the conditions under which persons who are bona fide members of a qualified  
164 organization or a child, above the age of 13 years, of a bona fide member of such organization may  
165 participate in the conduct or operation of bingo games.

166 9. Prescribe the conditions under which a person below the age of 18 years may play bingo,  
167 provided such person is accompanied by his parent or legal guardian.

168 10. Require all qualified organizations that are subject to Board regulations to post in a conspicuous  
169 place in every place where charitable gaming is conducted a sign which bears a toll-free telephone  
170 number for "Gamblers Anonymous" or other organization which provides assistance to compulsive  
171 gamblers.

172 11. Prescribe the conditions under which a qualified organization may sell network bingo cards in  
173 accordance with § 18.2-340.28:1 and establish a percentage of proceeds derived from network bingo  
174 sales to be allocated to (i) prize pools, (ii) the organization conducting the network bingo, and (iii) the  
175 network bingo provider. The regulations shall also establish procedures for the retainage and ultimate  
176 distribution of any unclaimed prize.

177 12. *Prescribe the conditions under which a qualified organization may manage, operate or contract*  
178 *with operators of, or conduct Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.*

179 B. In addition to the powers and duties granted pursuant to § 2.2-2456 and this article, the Board  
180 may, by regulation, approve variations to the card formats for bingo games provided such variations  
181 result in bingo games that are conducted in a manner consistent with the provisions of this article.  
182 Board-approved variations may include, but are not limited to, bingo games commonly referred to as

183 player selection games and 90-number bingo.

184 **§ 18.2-340.22. Only raffles, bingo, network bingo, instant bingo games, and Texas Hold'em**  
185 **poker tournaments permitted; prizes not gaming contracts.**

186 A. This article permits qualified organizations to conduct raffles, bingo, network bingo, and instant  
187 bingo games, and Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. All games not explicitly authorized by this article  
188 or Board regulations adopted in accordance with § 18.2-340.18 are prohibited. *Nothing herein shall be*  
189 *construed to authorize the Board to approve the conduct of any other form of poker in the*  
190 *Commonwealth.*

191 B. The award of any prize money for any charitable game shall not be deemed to be part of any  
192 gaming contract within the purview of § 11-14.

193 C. Nothing in this article shall prohibit an organization from using the Virginia Lottery's Pick-3  
194 number or any number or other designation selected by the Virginia Lottery in connection with any  
195 lottery, as the basis for determining the winner of a raffle.

196 **§ 18.2-340.28:2. Conduct of Texas Hold'em poker tournaments by qualified organizations;**  
197 **limitation of operator fee; conditions.**

198 A. Any organization qualified to conduct bingo games on or after July 1, 2019, may conduct Texas  
199 Hold'em poker tournaments. The Board shall promulgate regulations establishing circumstances under  
200 which organizations qualified to conduct bingo games prior to July 1, 2019, may conduct Texas  
201 Hold'em poker tournaments.

202 B. A qualified organization may contract with an operator to administer Texas Hold'em poker  
203 tournaments. Limitations on operator fees shall be established by Board regulations.

204 C. A qualified organization shall accept only cash or, at its option, checks in payment of any  
205 charges or assessments for players to participate in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. However, no  
206 such organization shall accept postdated checks in payment of any charges or assessments for players to  
207 participate in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.

208 D. No qualified organization or any person on the premises shall extend lines of credit or accept any  
209 credit or debit card or other electronic fund transfer in payment of any charges or assessments for  
210 players to participate in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.

211 E. No qualified organization shall allow any individual younger than 18 years of age to participate  
212 in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.

213 **§ 18.2-340.31. Audit of reports; exemption; audit and administration fee; additional gross**  
214 **receipts assessment.**

215 A. All reports filed pursuant to § 18.2-340.30 shall be subject to audit by the Department in  
216 accordance with Board regulations. The Department may engage the services of independent certified  
217 public accountants to perform any audits deemed necessary to fulfill the Department's responsibilities  
218 under this article.

219 B. The Department shall prescribe a reasonable audit and administration fee to be paid by any  
220 organization conducting charitable gaming under a permit issued by the Department unless the  
221 organization is exempt from such fee pursuant to § 18.2-340.23. Such fee shall not exceed one and  
222 one-quarter percent of the gross receipts which an organization reports pursuant to § 18.2-340.30. The  
223 audit and administration fee shall accompany each report for each calendar quarter.

224 C. The audit and administration fee shall be payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. All such fees  
225 received by the Treasurer of Virginia shall be separately accounted for and shall be used only by the  
226 Department for the purposes of auditing and regulating charitable gaming.

227 D. *In addition to the fee imposed under subsection B, an additional fee of one-quarter of one percent*  
228 *of the gross receipts that an organization reports pursuant to § 18.2-340.30 shall be paid by the*  
229 *organization to the Treasurer of Virginia. All such amounts shall be collected and deposited in the same*  
230 *manner as prescribed in subsections B and C and shall be used for the same purposes.*

231 **2. That the Charitable Gaming Board's initial adoption of regulations necessary to implement the**  
232 **provisions of this act shall be exempt from the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of**  
233 **the Code of Virginia), except that the Charitable Gaming Board shall provide an opportunity for**  
234 **public comment on the regulations prior to adoption.**