



KENTUCKY MERCHANTS AND AMUSEMENT COALITION, INC.

SKILL GAMES ARE LEGAL ECONOMIC DRIVERS FOR KENTUCKY
SUPPORTING KENTUCKY SMALL BUSINESSES OVER BIG GAMING INTERESTS

Last legislative session, some lawmakers in Kentucky sought to pass legislation attempting to ban legal skill games. Skill games, and the revenue they generate, have become a lifeline for many small businesses, clubs, veteran groups, and fraternal organizations in Kentucky. These efforts are not only misguided but dangerous. If passed, this legislation could have resulted in the stripping away of much-needed supplemental income for businesses already struggling in hard economic times.

WHAT SKILL GAMES ARE:

- Skill games **ARE** legal in Kentucky.
- Skill games **ARE** legal in other states and jurisdictions including Wyoming, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Virginia, Kansas, and the District of Columbia.
- Skill games **ARE** economic drivers for small businesses and fraternal groups and veteran organizations. They provide additional revenue to supplement their traditional income base.
- Skill games **ARE** tax-generating when regulated. In other states, skill games produce between \$140 - \$250+ million in tax revenue dollars per year.

WHAT SKILL GAMES ARE NOT:

- Skill games are **NOT** slot machines. Unlike slot machines which rely on a game of chance, skill games require a player to use their skill, patience, and hand-eye dexterity to win.
- Skill games are **NOT** gambling. Skill games are specifically designed to *not* meet the definition of gambling as they remove the factor of chance and replace it with predominant skill.
- Skill games are **NOT** a threat to the Kentucky Lottery, HHR, or other gambling entities. Studies have shown that establishments with skill games have seen an increase in their lottery sales.

“Skill games help sustain a small business. At a minimum, 75% of the revenue stays in the local community. That makes all the difference to the communities they serve. It is not the job of the government to pick winners and losers when it comes to how someone earns a living.”

– *Kama Reed, BJ Novelty, Small Business Owner, Covington, KY*

“While these devices provide entertainment for patrons, they also create supplemental income for these establishments. They have been a lifeline for these businesses, specifically fraternal organizations. Many of the posts we work with have told us that these games are keeping their doors open.”

– *Chad Carmichael, Carmichael Music & Vending, Small Business Owner, Lexington, KY*

WHAT KY MAC IS ASKING FOR

1. Support legislation that would regulate skill games, benefiting small businesses and generating tax revenue for the state.
2. Oppose any legislation that would **WRONGFULLY** make skill games illegal and harm small businesses.

WHO IS KY MAC

The Kentucky Merchants and Amusement Coalition (KY MAC) represents the interests of Kentucky small businesses, fraternal clubs, and veteran organizations. We are a 501(C)(4) organization comprised of bars, restaurants, clubs, lodges, and social organizations, including American Legions and VFWs. We are committed to helping our members succeed financially, create jobs, and support their local communities.