

CHAPTER 165**(HB 294)**

AN ACT relating to charitable gaming.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 238.535 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Any charitable organization conducting charitable gaming in the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be licensed by the division. A charitable organization qualifying under subsection (8) of this section but not exceeding the limitations provided in this subsection shall be exempt from the licensure requirements when conducting the following charitable gaming activities:
 - (a) Bingo in which the gross receipts do not exceed a total of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year;
 - (b) A raffle or raffles for which the gross receipts do not exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year; and
 - (c) A charity fundraising event or events that do not involve special limited charitable games and the gross gaming receipts for which do not exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year.

However, at no time shall a charitable organization's total limitations under this subsection exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

- (2) Any charitable organization exempt from the process of applying for a license under subsection (1) of this section, shall notify the division in writing, on a form issued by the division, of its intent to engage in exempt charitable gaming and the address at which the gaming is to occur. Any charitable organization exempt from the process of applying for a license under subsection (1) of this section, shall comply with all other provisions of this chapter, except:
 - (a) Payment of the fee imposed under the provisions of KRS 238.570; and
 - (b) The reporting requirements imposed under the provisions of KRS 238.550(2), unless the exempt charitable organization obtains a retroactive license pursuant to subsection (5) of this section.
- (3) If an organization exceeds the limit imposed by any subsection of this section it shall:
 - (a) Report the amount to the division; and
 - (b) Apply for a retroactive charitable gaming license.
- (4) Upon receipt of a report and application for a retroactive charitable gaming license, the division shall investigate to determine if the organization is otherwise qualified to hold the license.
- (5) If the division determines that the applicant is qualified, it shall issue a charitable gaming license retroactive to the date on which the exemption limit was exceeded. The retroactive charitable gaming license shall be issued in the same manner as regular charitable gaming licenses.
- (6) If the division determines that the applicant is not qualified it shall deny the license and take enforcement action, if appropriate.

- (7) Once a retroactive or regular gaming license is issued to an organization, that organization shall not be eligible for exempt status in the future and shall maintain a charitable gaming license if it intends to continue charitable gaming activities, unless the charitable organization has not exceeded the exemption limitations of subsection (1) of this section for a period of two (2) years prior to its exemption request.
- (8) In order to qualify for licensure, a charitable organization shall:
- (a) 1. Possess a tax exempt status under 26 U.S.C. secs. 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19), or be covered under a group ruling issued by the Internal Revenue Service under authority of those sections; or
2. Be organized within the Commonwealth of Kentucky as a common school as defined in KRS 158.030, as an institution of higher education as defined in KRS 164A.305, or as a state college or university as provided for in KRS 164.290;
 - (b) Have been established and continuously operating within the Commonwealth of Kentucky for charitable purposes, other than the conduct of charitable gaming, for a period of three (3) years prior to application for licensure;
 - (c) Have been actively engaged in charitable activities during the three (3) years immediately prior to application for licensure and be able to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the division, reasonable progress in accomplishing its charitable purposes during this period. As used in this paragraph, "accomplishing its charitable purposes" means relief of poverty, advancement of education, protection of health, relief from disease, relief from suffering or distress, protection of the environment, conservation of wildlife, advancement of civic, governmental, or municipal purposes, or advancement of those purposes delineated in KRS 238.505(3); and
 - (d) Have maintained an office or place of business, other than for the conduct of charitable gaming, for one (1) year in the county in which charitable gaming is to be conducted. The office or place of business shall be a separate and distinct address and location from that of any other licensee of the division; except that up to three (3) licensed charitable organizations may have the same address if they legitimately share office space. For the conduct of a raffle, the county in which charitable gaming is to be conducted shall be the county in which the raffle drawing is to be conducted. ***However, a charitable organization that has established and maintained an office or place of business in the county for a period of at least one (1) year may hold a raffle drawing in a Kentucky county other than that in which the organization's office or place of business is located if the organization notifies the division in writing of the organization's intent to change the drawing's location at least thirty (30) days before the drawing takes place. This written notification may be transmitted in any commercially reasonable means, authorized by the division, including facsimile and electronic mail. The notification shall set out the place and the county in which the drawing will take place. Approval by the division shall be received prior to the conduct of the raffle drawing at the new location.*** Any charitable organization that was registered with the county clerk to conduct charitable gaming in a county on or before March 31, 1992, shall satisfy this requirement if it maintained a place of business or operation, other than for the conduct of charitable gaming, for one (1) year

prior to application in a Kentucky county adjoining the county in which they were registered. Any licensed charitable organization that qualifies to conduct charitable gaming in an adjoining county under this paragraph, shall be permitted to conduct in its county of residence a charity fund raising event.

- (9) In applying for a license, the information to be submitted shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (a) The name and address of the charitable organization;
 - (b) The date of the charitable organization's establishment in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the date of establishment in the county in which charitable gaming is to be conducted;
 - (c) A statement of the charitable purpose or purposes for which the organization was organized. If the charitable organization is incorporated, a copy of the articles of incorporation shall satisfy this requirement;
 - (d) A statement explaining the organizational structure and management of the organization. For incorporated entities, a copy of the organizations bylaws shall satisfy this requirement;
 - (e) A detailed accounting of the charitable activities in which the charitable organization has been engaged for the three (3) years preceding application for licensure;
 - (f) The names, addresses, dates of birth, and Social Security numbers of all officers of the organization;
 - (g) The names, addresses, dates of birth, and Social Security numbers of all employees and members of the charitable organization who will be involved in the management and supervision of charitable gaming. No fewer than two (2) employees or members of the charitable organization who are involved in the management and supervision of charitable gaming, along with the chief executive officer or the director of the applicant organization, shall be designated as chairpersons;
 - (h) The address of the location at which charitable gaming will be conducted and the name and address of the owner of the property, if it is owned by a person other than the charitable organization;
 - (i) A copy of the letter or other legal document issued by the Internal Revenue Service to grant tax-exempt status;
 - (j) A statement signed by the presiding or other responsible officer of the charitable organization attesting that the information submitted in the application is true and correct and that the organization agrees to comply with all applicable laws and administrative regulations regarding charitable gaming;
 - (k) An agreement that the charitable organization's records may be released by the federal Internal Revenue Service to the division; and
 - (l) Any other information the division deems appropriate.
- (10) The division may issue a license for a specified period of time, based on the type of charitable gaming involved and the desired duration of the activity.

- (11) The division shall charge a fee for each license issued and renewed, not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300). Specific fees to be charged shall be prescribed in a graduated scale promulgated by administrative regulations and based on type of license, type of charitable gaming, actual or projected gross receipts, or other applicable factors, or combination of factors.

Section 2. KRS 238.540 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) *Except as provided in subsection (8)(d) of Section 1 of this Act*, charitable gaming shall be conducted by a licensed charitable organization at only one (1) location and at the date and time which shall be stated on the license. A license holder shall notify the division at least thirty (30) days in advance of its intent to change its location, date, or time and approval by the division shall be received by the licensee prior to the conduct of charitable gaming at a new location.
- (2) All premises or facilities on which or in which charitable gaming is conducted shall meet all applicable federal, state, and local code requirements relating to life, safety, and health.
- (3) A license to conduct charitable gaming shall be prominently displayed on or in the premises where charitable gaming is conducted, in a conspicuous location that is readily accessible to gaming patrons as well as employees of the division, law enforcement officials, and other interested officials.
- (4) At least one (1) chairperson who is listed on the application for licensure shall be at each charitable gaming activity conducted by the charitable organization and shall be responsible for the charitable gaming activity. No person shall serve as chairperson for more than one (1) charitable organization. The chairperson shall be readily identifiable as the chairperson and shall be present on the premises continuously during the charitable gaming activity. Charitable gaming shall be conducted and administered solely by officers, members, and bona fide employees of the licensed charitable organization. Volunteer personnel, who may or may not be members of the licensed charitable organization, may be utilized if each volunteer is readily identifiable as a volunteer. No person engaged in the conduct and administration of charitable gaming shall receive any compensation for services related to the charitable gaming activities, including tipping. Any effort or attempt to disguise any other type of compensation shall be considered an unauthorized diversion of funds and shall be actionable under KRS 238.995.
- (5) No licensed charitable organization shall contract with, or otherwise utilize the services of, any management company, service company, or consultant in managing or conducting any aspect of charitable gaming.
- (6) A licensed charitable organization shall not purchase or lease charitable gaming supplies and equipment from any person not licensed as a distributor in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- (7) A licensed charitable organization shall not accept any merchandise prizes donated by any owner, officer, employee, or contractee of a licensed manufacturer, distributor, charitable gaming facility, or any of their affiliates, or any member of their immediate families.
- (8) Any advertisement of charitable gaming, regardless of the medium used, shall contain the name of the charitable organization conducting the charitable gaming and its license number.

Approved March 28, 2000