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I N   A S S E M B L Y

April 18, 2012

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Introduced by M. of A. PRETLOW -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the conducting of games of chance by certain organizations

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivisions 4 and 6 of section 186 of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter 574 of the laws of 1978, are amended and  
2     two new subdivisions 4-a and 22 are added to read as follows:  
3     4. "Authorized organization" shall mean and include any bona fide  
4     religious or charitable organization or bona fide educational, fraternal  
5     or service organization or bona fide organization of veterans [or],  
6     volunteer [firemen] FIREFIGHTERS OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS, which  
7     by its charter, certificate of incorporation, constitution, or act of  
8     the legislature, shall have among its dominant purposes one or more of  
9     the lawful purposes as defined in this article, provided that each shall  
10    operate without profit to its members, and provided that each such  
11    organization has engaged in serving one or more of the lawful purposes  
12    as defined in this article for a period of three years [immediatley]  
13    IMMEDIATELY prior to applying for a license under this article.  
14    No organization shall be deemed an authorized organization which is  
15    formed primarily for the purpose of conducting games of chance and which  
16    does not devote at least seventy-five percent of its activities to other  
17    than conducting games of chance. No political party shall be deemed an  
18    authorized organization.  
19    4-A. "AUXILIARY MEMBER" SHALL MEAN A BONA FIDE MEMBER OF AN ORGANIZA-  
20    TION OR ASSOCIATION WHICH IS AUXILIARY TO AN AUTHORIZED ORGANIZATION  
21    LICENSED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE; OR A BONA FIDE MEMBER OF AN ORGANIZA-  
22    TION OR ASSOCIATION OF WHICH AN AUTHORIZED ORGANIZATION LICENSED PURSU-  
23    ANT TO THIS ARTICLE IS AN AUXILIARY; OR A BONA FIDE MEMBER OF AN ORGAN-  
24    IZATION OR ASSOCIATION WHICH IS AFFILIATED WITH AN AUTHORIZED  
25    ORGANIZATION LICENSED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE BY BEING, WITH IT, AUXIL-  
26    IARY TO ANOTHER ORGANIZATION OR ASSOCIATION.  
27

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 6. "Net proceeds" shall mean (a) in relation to the gross receipts  
2 from one or more license periods of games of chance, the amount that  
3 shall remain after deducting the reasonable sums necessarily and actual-  
4 ly expended for CONDUCTING GAMES OF CHANCE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED  
5 TO, supplies and equipment, prizes, security-personnel, stated rental if  
6 any, bookkeeping or accounting services according to a schedule of  
7 compensation prescribed by the board, janitorial services and utility  
8 supplies if any, license fees, and [the cost of bus transportation]  
9 REIMBURSEMENT OF REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED BY VOLUNTEERS WHO DONATE  
10 THEIR TIME TO HOLD, OPERATE OR CONDUCT, OR ASSIST IN THE CONDUCT OF SUCH  
11 GAMES, AND AS AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD AND if authorized by the clerk or  
12 department and (b) in relation to the gross rent received by an author-  
13 ized games of chance lessor for the use of its premises by a game of  
14 chance licensee, the amount that shall remain after deducting the  
15 reasonable sums necessarily and actually expended for janitorial  
16 services and utility supplies directly attributable thereto if any.

17 22. "REASONABLE EXPENSES" SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, CHILD  
18 CARE EXPENSES, TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES, MEALS AND OTHER EXPENSES, AS  
19 DETERMINED AND REGULATED BY THE BOARD.

20 S 2. Subdivisions 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11 of section 189 of the general  
21 municipal law, subdivisions 4, 10 and 11 as amended by chapter 574 of  
22 the laws of 1978, subdivision 5 as amended by chapter 337 of the laws of  
23 1998 and subdivisions 6 and 8 as amended by chapter 302 of the laws of  
24 2010, are amended to read as follows:

25 4. The entire net proceeds of any game of chance shall be exclusively  
26 devoted to the lawful purposes of the organization permitted to conduct  
27 the same and the net proceeds of any rental derived therefrom shall be  
28 exclusively devoted to the lawful purposes of the authorized games of  
29 chance lessor; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A PERSON MAY ACCEPT REIMBURSEMENT  
30 OF REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED TO MANAGE, HOLD, OPERATE OR CONDUCT SUCH  
31 GAMES.

32 5. No single prize awarded by games of chance other than raffle shall  
33 exceed the sum or value of [three] FOUR hundred dollars, except that for  
34 merchandise wheels, no single prize shall exceed the sum or value of  
35 [two] THREE hundred [fifty] dollars. No single prize awarded by raffle  
36 shall exceed the sum or value of fifty thousand dollars, except that an  
37 authorized organization may award by raffle a single prize having a  
38 value of up to and including one hundred thousand dollars if its appli-  
39 cation for a license filed pursuant to section one hundred ninety of  
40 this article includes a statement of its intent to award a prize having  
41 such value. No single wager shall exceed six dollars and for bell jars,  
42 coin boards, or merchandise boards, no single prize shall exceed five  
43 hundred dollars provided, however, that such limitation shall not apply  
44 to the amount of money or value paid by the participant in a raffle in  
45 return for a ticket or other receipt. For coin boards and merchandise  
46 boards, the value of a prize shall be determined by its costs to the  
47 authorized organization or, if donated, its fair market value.

48 6. No authorized organization shall award a series of prizes consist-  
49 ing of cash or of merchandise with an aggregate value in excess of ten  
50 thousand dollars during the successive operations of any one merchandise  
51 wheel OR BELL JAR, and three thousand dollars during the successive  
52 operations of any [bell jar,] coin board[, ] or merchandise board. No  
53 series of prizes awarded by raffle shall have an aggregate value in  
54 excess of five hundred thousand dollars. For coin boards and merchandise  
55 boards, the value of a prize shall be determined by its cost to the  
56 authorized organization or, if donated, its fair market value.

1 8. Except for merchandise wheels and raffles, no series of prizes on  
2 any one occasion shall aggregate more than [four] FIVE hundred dollars  
3 when the licensed authorized organization conducts five single types of  
4 games of chance during any one license period. Except for merchandise  
5 wheels, raffles and bell jars, no series of prizes on any one occasion  
6 shall aggregate more than five hundred dollars when the licensed author-  
7 ized organization conducts less than five single types of games of  
8 chance, exclusive of merchandise wheels, raffles and bell jars, during  
9 any one license period. No authorized organization shall award by raffle  
10 prizes with an aggregate value in excess of five hundred thousand  
11 dollars during any one license period.

12 10. No person except a bona fide member of the licensed authorized  
13 organization OR AN AUXILIARY MEMBER OF SUCH ORGANIZATION shall partic-  
14 ipate in the management of such games[; no person except a bona fide  
15 member of the licensed authorized organization, its auxiliary or affil-  
16 iated organization, shall participate in the operation of such game, as  
17 set forth in section one hundred ninety-five-c of this article].

18 11. No person shall receive any remuneration for participating in the  
19 management or operation of any such game; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A  
20 PERSON MAY ACCEPT REIMBURSEMENT OF REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED TO  
21 MANAGE, HOLD, OPERATE OR CONDUCT GAMES OF CHANCE.

22 S 3. Subparagraph 5 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 190  
23 of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter 574 of the laws of  
24 1978, is amended to read as follows:

25 (5) the purposes to which the entire net proceeds of such games are to  
26 be devoted and in what manner; that no commission, salary, compen-  
27 sation[,] OR reward [or recompense] will be paid to any person for  
28 conducting such game or games or for assisting therein except as in this  
29 article otherwise provided; and such other information as shall be  
30 prescribed by such rules and regulations.

31 S 4. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 190 of the general  
32 municipal law, as amended by chapter 574 of the laws of 1978, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 (b) In each application there shall be designated not less than [four]  
35 THREE bona fide members of the applicant organization under whom the  
36 game or games of chance will be managed and to the application shall be  
37 appended a statement executed by the members so designated, that they  
38 will be responsible for the management of such games in accordance with  
39 the terms of the license, the rules and regulations of the board, this  
40 article and the applicable local laws or ordinances.

41 S 5. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 190-a of the general  
42 municipal law, as amended by chapter 400 of the laws of 2005, is amended  
43 to read as follows:

44 (a) For the purposes of this section, "authorized organization" shall  
45 mean and include any bona fide religious or charitable organization or  
46 bona fide educational, fraternal or service organization or bona fide  
47 organization of veterans [or], volunteer [firefighter] FIREFIGHTERS OR  
48 VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS, which by its charter, certificate of incor-  
49 poration, constitution, or act of the legislature, shall have among its  
50 dominant purposes one or more of the lawful purposes as defined in this  
51 article, provided that each shall operate without profit to its members,  
52 and provided that each such organization has engaged in serving one or  
53 more of the lawful purposes as defined in this article for a period of  
54 three years immediately prior to being granted the filing requirement  
55 exemption contained in subdivision one of this section.

1 S 6. Subdivision 3 of section 190-a of the general municipal law, as  
2 added by chapter 400 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

3 3. No person under the age of eighteen shall be permitted to play[,  
4 operate or assist] in any raffle conducted pursuant to this section. NO  
5 PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE OR  
6 ASSIST IN ANY RAFFLE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION; PROVIDED,  
7 HOWEVER, THAT A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS AND WHO IS  
8 SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER SHALL BE PERMITTED TO ASSIST IN ANY RAFFLE  
9 IF ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

10 S 7. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 191 of the general  
11 municipal law, as amended by section 15 of part LL of chapter 56 of the  
12 laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Issuance of licenses to conduct games of chance. If such clerk or  
14 department shall determine that the applicant is duly qualified to be  
15 licensed to conduct games of chance under this article; that the member  
16 or members of the applicant designated in the application to manage  
17 games of chance are bona fide active members of the applicant and are  
18 persons of good moral character and have never been convicted of a  
19 crime, or, if convicted, have received a pardon, a certificate of good  
20 conduct or a certificate of relief from disabilities pursuant to article  
21 twenty-three of the correction law, OR, IF CONVICTED, THE MEMBER OR  
22 MEMBERS ARE PARTICIPATING IN A REHABILITATION PROGRAM LICENSED OR CERTI-  
23 FIED BY A STATE AGENCY AND OPERATED BY THE APPLICANT OR AN AUXILIARY  
24 THEREOF; that such games are to be conducted in accordance with the  
25 provisions of this article and in accordance with the rules and regu-  
26 lations of the board and applicable local laws or ordinances and that  
27 the proceeds thereof are to be disposed of as provided by this article,  
28 and if such clerk or department is satisfied that no commission, salary,  
29 compensation[,] OR reward [or recompense] whatever will be paid or given  
30 to any person managing, operating or assisting therein except as [in  
31 this article] otherwise provided IN THIS ARTICLE, INCLUDING REIMBURSE-  
32 MENT OF REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED BY VOLUNTEERS WHO DONATE THEIR TIME  
33 TO HOLD, OPERATE OR CONDUCT, OR ASSIST IN THE CONDUCT OF SUCH GAMES; it  
34 shall issue a license to the applicant for the conduct of games of  
35 chance upon payment of a license fee of twenty-five dollars for each  
36 license period.

37 S 8. Subdivision 3 of section 194 of the general municipal law, as  
38 amended by chapter 550 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as  
39 follows:

40 3. [Service of alcoholic beverages.] Subject to the applicable  
41 provisions of the alcoholic beverage control law, beer AND WINE may be  
42 offered for sale during the conduct of games of chance on games of  
43 chance premises as such premises are defined in subdivision nineteen of  
44 section one hundred eighty-six of this article; provided, however, that  
45 nothing herein shall be construed to limit the offering for sale of any  
46 other alcoholic beverage in areas other than the games of chance prem-  
47 ises or the sale of any other alcoholic beverage in premises where only  
48 the games of chance known as bell jar or raffles are conducted.

49 S 9. Section 195 of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter  
50 461 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

51 S 195. Sunday; conduct of games on. Except as provided in section one  
52 hundred ninety-five-b of this article, [no] games of chance [shall] MAY  
53 be conducted under any license issued under this article on the first  
54 day of the week, commonly known and designated as Sunday, unless it  
55 shall be otherwise provided in the license issued for the conducting  
56 thereof, pursuant to the provisions of a local law or an ordinance duly

1 adopted by the governing body of the municipality wherein the license is  
2 issued, [authorizing] PROHIBITING the conduct of games of chance under  
3 this article on that day [only between the hours of noon and midnight].  
4 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section no games of  
5 chance shall be conducted on Easter Sunday or Christmas Day.

6 S 10. Section 195-a of the general municipal law, as amended by chap-  
7 ter 574 of the laws of 1978, is amended to read as follows:

8 S 195-a. Participation by persons under eighteen. No person under the  
9 age of eighteen years shall be permitted to play any game or games of  
10 chance conducted pursuant to any license issued under this article.  
11 Persons under the age of eighteen years may be permitted to attend games  
12 of chance [at the discretion of the games of chance licensee]. No  
13 person under the age of eighteen years shall be permitted to operate any  
14 game of chance conducted pursuant to any license issued under this arti-  
15 cle or to assist therein; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A PERSON UNDER THE AGE  
16 OF EIGHTEEN YEARS AND WHO IS SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER SHALL BE  
17 PERMITTED TO ASSIST IN THE OPERATION OF ANY GAME OF CHANCE IF ACCOMPA-  
18 NIED BY A PARENT.

19 S 11. Section 195-b of the general municipal law, as amended by chap-  
20 ter 252 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

21 S 195-b. Frequency of games. No game or games of chance, shall be  
22 conducted under any license issued under this article more often than  
23 [twelve] EIGHTEEN times in any calendar year. No particular premises  
24 shall be used for the conduct of games of chance on more than twenty-  
25 four license periods during any one calendar year. Games shall be  
26 conducted only between the hours of noon and midnight on SUNDAY, Monday,  
27 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and only between the hours of noon on  
28 Friday and two A.M. Saturday, and only between the hours of noon on  
29 Saturday and two A.M. Sunday. The two A.M. closing period shall also  
30 apply to a legal holiday. The above restrictions shall not apply when  
31 only the games of chance known as bell jar and/or raffle are conducted.

32 S 12. Section 195-c of the general municipal law, as amended by chap-  
33 ter 252 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

34 S 195-c. [1.] Persons operating games; equipment; expenses; compen-  
35 sation. 1. No person shall operate any game of chance under any license  
36 issued under this article except a bona fide member OR AUXILIARY MEMBER  
37 of the authorized organization to which the license is issued[, or a  
38 bona fide member of an organization or association which is an auxiliary  
39 to the licensee or a bona fide member of an organization or association  
40 of which such licensee is an auxiliary or a bona fide member of an  
41 organization or association which is affiliated with the licensee by  
42 being, with it, auxiliary to another organization or association]. Noth-  
43 ing herein shall be construed to limit the number of games of chance  
44 licensees for whom such persons may operate games of chance nor to  
45 prevent non-members from assisting the licensee in any activity other  
46 than managing or operating games. No game of chance shall be conducted  
47 with any equipment except such as shall be owned or leased by the  
48 authorized organization so licensed or used without payment of any  
49 compensation therefor by the licensee. However, in no event shall bell  
50 jar tickets be transferred from one authorized organization to another,  
51 with or without payment of any compensation thereof. The head or heads  
52 of the authorized organization shall upon request certify, under oath,  
53 that the persons operating any game of chance are bona fide OR AUXILIARY  
54 members of such authorized organization, auxiliary or affiliated organ-  
55 ization. Upon request by an officer or the department any such person  
56 involved in such games of chance shall certify that he or she has no

1 criminal record. No items of expense shall be incurred or paid in  
2 connection with the conducting of any game of chance pursuant to any  
3 license issued under this article except those that are reasonable and  
4 are necessarily expended for games of chance supplies and equipment,  
5 prizes, security personnel, stated rental if any, bookkeeping or  
6 accounting services according to a schedule of compensation prescribed  
7 by the board, janitorial services and utility supplies if any, and  
8 license fees, REIMBURSEMENT OF REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED BY VOLUN-  
9 TEERS WHO DONATE THEIR TIME TO OPERATE OR ASSIST IN THE OPERATION OF  
10 GAMES OF CHANCE and the cost of bus transportation, if authorized by  
11 such clerk or department. No commission, salary, compensation[,] OR  
12 reward [or recompense] shall be paid or given to any person for the sale  
13 or assisting with the sale of raffle tickets.

14 2. For the purpose of the sale of tickets for the game of raffle, the  
15 term "operate" shall not include the sale of such tickets by persons of  
16 lineal or collateral consanguinity to members of an authorized organiza-  
17 tion licensed to conduct a raffle.

18 S 13. Section 195-e of the general municipal law, as amended by chap-  
19 ter 94 of the laws of 1981, is amended to read as follows:

20 S 195-e. Advertising games. A licensee may advertise the conduct of  
21 games of chance to the general public by means of newspaper, circular,  
22 handbill [and], poster, ELECTRONIC MAIL, ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND  
23 GOVERNMENT ACCESS TELEVISION BROADCASTS, and by one sign not exceeding  
24 sixty square feet in area, which may be displayed on or adjacent to the  
25 premises owned or occupied by a licensed authorized organization, and  
26 when an organization is licensed to conduct games of chance on premises  
27 of an authorized games of chance lessor, one additional such sign may be  
28 displayed on or adjacent to the premises in which the games are to be  
29 conducted. Additional signs may be displayed upon any fire fighting  
30 equipment belonging to any licensed authorized organization which is a  
31 volunteer fire company, or upon any equipment of a first aid or rescue  
32 squad, OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY in and throughout the community  
33 served by such volunteer fire company or such first aid or rescue squad,  
34 OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE COMPANY, as the case may be. All advertisements  
35 shall be limited to the description of such event as "Games of chance"  
36 or "Las Vegas Night", the name of the authorized organization conducting  
37 such games, the license number of the authorized organization as  
38 assigned by the clerk or department and the date, location and time of  
39 the event.

40 S 14. Subdivision 3 of section 195-f of the general municipal law, as  
41 amended by chapter 550 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as  
42 follows:

43 3. Any authorized organization required to file an annual report with  
44 the secretary of state pursuant to article seven-A of the executive law  
45 [or the attorney general pursuant to article eight of the estates,  
46 powers and trusts law] shall include with such annual report a copy of  
47 the statement required to be filed with the clerk or department pursuant  
48 to subdivision one or two of this section.

49 S 15. Subdivision 1 of section 195-n of the general municipal law, as  
50 amended by chapter 637 of the laws of 1999, is amended to read as  
51 follows:

52 1. Distribution; manufacturers. For business conducted in this state,  
53 manufacturers licensed by the board to sell bell jar tickets shall sell  
54 only such tickets to distributors licensed by the board. Manufacturers  
55 of bell jar tickets, seal cards, merchandise boards, and coin boards may  
56 submit samples, artists' renderings, or color photocopies of proposed

1 bell jar tickets, seal cards, merchandise boards, coin boards, payout  
2 cards, and flares for review and approval by the board. Within thirty  
3 days of receipt of such sample or rendering, the board shall approve or  
4 deny such bell jar tickets. [Following approval of a rendering of a bell  
5 jar ticket, seal card, merchandise board, or coin board by the board]  
6 PRIOR TO THE SALE OF A BELL JAR GAME, JAR TICKET, SEAL CARD, MERCHANDISE  
7 BOARD OR COIN BOARD TO ANY LICENSED DISTRIBUTOR FOR RESALE IN THIS  
8 STATE, the manufacturer shall submit to the board a sample of the print-  
9 ed bell jar ticket, seal card, merchandise board, coin board, payout  
10 card, and flare for such game. [Such sample shall be submitted prior to  
11 the sale of the game to any licensed distributor for resale in this  
12 state.] WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF RECEIPT OF SUCH SAMPLE, THE BOARD  
13 SHALL APPROVE OR DENY THE BELL JAR TICKET, JAR TICKET, SEAL CARD,  
14 MERCHANDISE BOARD OR COIN BOARD. For coin boards and merchandise boards,  
15 nothing herein shall require the submittal of actual coins or merchan-  
16 dise as part of the approval process. Any licensed manufacturer who  
17 willfully violates the provisions of this section shall: (a) upon such  
18 first offense, have their license suspended for a period of thirty days;  
19 (b) upon such second offense, participate in a hearing to be conducted  
20 by the board, and surrender their license for such period as recommended  
21 by the board; and (c) upon such third or subsequent offense, have their  
22 license suspended for a period of one year and shall be guilty of a  
23 class E felony. Any unlicensed manufacturer who violates the provisions  
24 of this section shall be guilty of a class E felony.

25 S 16. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
26 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.