

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1695

Bill Subtitle: TO ALLOW CERTAIN ELECTRONIC BINGO DEVICES TO PLAY AN ELECTRONIC BLOTTER.

Basic Change :

Sponsor: Rep. L. Johnson

HB1695 allows authorized organizations licensed under the Charitable Bingo and Raffles Enabling Act (the Act), § 23-114-101 et seq., to conduct games of bingo on an electronic bingo device. The bill amends the definition of a "game of bingo" by requiring any such game to be conducted from a single location with all participants physically present.

The bill requires the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) to determine adequate levels of internal security controls for electronic bingo devices. DFA must inspect and approve all electronic bingo devices before the licensed organizations may use them in games of bingo. DFA must also approve the form of all electronic facsimiles of paper bingo sheets.

Revenue Impact :

None.

Taxpayer Impact :

Games of charitable bingo using an electronic bingo device would be authorized.

Resources Required :

Additional staff may be required because HB1695 requires all electronic bingo devices and all forms of electronic facsimiles of paper bingo to be inspected and approved by DFA before use in a game of bingo.

Time Required :

Adequate time is provided for implementation.

Procedural Changes :

Changes to the Charitable Bingo and Raffle Rule 2007-4 will need to be promulgated.

Other Comments :

None.

Legal Analysis :

HB1695 prescribes certain limitations on what constitutes a permissible electronic bingo device. The device cannot allow more than fifty bingo faces to be played in any one game. The device cannot accept physical or electronic currency to activate play, nor can the device have any additional function

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as an amusement or gambling device.

The bill also expands the definition of "bingo face" to include disposable paper bingo sheets with braille markings for the visually impaired.

HB1695 requires an authorized organization's purchase of electronic bingo devices or bingo faces to be made from a distributor that has obtained a license from DFA to sell bingo equipment.