



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Cody Weisbrodt

H.B. 17

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Cera, Rogers, Celebrezze, O'Brien, Boggs, Thompson, Riedel, K. Smith, Hood, Sheehy

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates a new reduced license fee of \$50 for a charitable organization conducting instant bingo on five or fewer days in a calendar year.
- Requires a charitable organization applying for a license to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a calendar year to specify the date, time, location, and any alternate locations at which the organization may conduct instant bingo.
- Requires a charitable organization licensed to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year that wishes to change the date, time, or location of an instant bingo session to one that is not listed on its license to apply to the Attorney General in writing for an amended license, at least 30 days before the session.
- Allows a charitable organization licensed to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year to apply for an amended license up to five times per year.
- Clarifies that a temporary instant bingo permit issued by the Attorney General to a charitable organization that has applied to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year does not allow the organization to conduct instant bingo on any additional days not identified in the organization's application.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Reduced license fee for organizations conducting limited instant bingo

The bill creates a new, reduced \$50 license fee that applies to a charitable organization conducting instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year.¹ Current law requires a charitable organization applying to conduct instant bingo to pay a \$500 license fee if the organization has not previously received an instant bingo license, or if the organization has previously received a license, to pay a sliding fee ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 plus 1% of the organization's gross instant bingo profits from the previous year.² Continuing law also grants the Attorney General the ability to establish reduced license fees for charitable organizations that conduct instant bingo during fewer than 26 weeks in a year.³ Currently, the Attorney General has established a reduced license fee of 90% of the sliding fee amount for an organization offering instant bingo in fewer than 26 weeks in a year, and a flat license fee of \$200 for an organization offering instant bingo on four or fewer weeks in the past year and that during the previous year received less than \$50,000 in gross profits from instant bingo.⁴

Required instant bingo license information

The bill requires a charitable organization applying to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year to identify the specific dates, times, primary locations, and any alternate locations at which the organization may conduct instant bingo.⁵ This information, including the alternate locations indicated on the organization's application, is then listed on the license granted to the charitable organization. Under current law, a charitable organization applying for an instant bingo license must identify the locations at which it will conduct instant bingo.⁶

While current law contains a process to allow a charitable organization to apply for an amended instant bingo license, an organization seeking to amend a license to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days must follow a new license amendment

¹ R.C. 2915.08(A)(1)(e).

² R.C. 2915.08(A)(1)(b).

³ R.C. 2915.08(A)(1)(c) and (G).

⁴ O.A.C. 109:1-2-02 and 109:1-2-03.

⁵ R.C. 2915.08(A)(2)(k).

⁶ R.C. 2915.08(A)(2)(c).



process created in the bill.⁷ Under this process, a charitable organization licensed to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year must apply in writing for an amended instant bingo license from the Attorney General at least 30 days before the instant bingo will be conducted. The organization must note in the amended license application all changes requested in date, time, and location. The Attorney General then must exchange the organization's initial license for the amended license.⁸ An organization conducting instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year may apply for an amended license up to five times per year.⁹

Temporary permit does not allow instant bingo on extra days

The bill specifies that any temporary permit granted by the Attorney General to an organization applying to conduct instant bingo on five or fewer days in a year does not allow that organization to conduct instant bingo on any days or times other than those approved by the Attorney General. Current law requires the Attorney General to send a temporary bingo permit to a charitable organization applying for a bingo permit within 30 days after receiving a timely filed application if the applicant has previously received a permit that has not been revoked or suspended. This temporary permit allows the organization to continue to conduct bingo until a new license is granted or the organization's application is rejected.¹⁰

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-01-17

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⁷ R.C. 2915.08(F)(1).

⁸ R.C. 2915.08(E) and (F)(2).

⁹ R.C. 2915.09(C)(6).

¹⁰ R.C. 2915.08(A)(3).

