

As Passed by the Senate

**128th General Assembly
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S. B. No. 153

Senator Patton

**Cosponsors: Senators Kearney, Cafaro, Miller, D., Morano, Schaffer, Seitz,
Gillmor, Goodman, Schiavoni, Wilson, Faber**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 2915.01 and 2915.091 of the Revised 1
Code to change the definition of "instant bingo 2
ticket dispenser" and to authorize a charitable 3
organization to purchase, lease, and use instant 4
bingo ticket dispensers. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 2915.01 and 2915.091 of the Revised 6
Code be amended to read as follows: 7

Sec. 2915.01. As used in this chapter: 8

(A) "Bookmaking" means the business of receiving or paying 9
off bets. 10

(B) "Bet" means the hazarding of anything of value upon the 11
result of an event, undertaking, or contingency, but does not 12
include a bona fide business risk. 13

(C) "Scheme of chance" means a slot machine, lottery, numbers 14
game, pool conducted for profit, or other scheme in which a 15
participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a 16
prize, but does not include bingo, a skill-based amusement 17

machine, or a pool not conducted for profit. 18

(D) "Game of chance" means poker, craps, roulette, or other 19
game in which a player gives anything of value in the hope of 20
gain, the outcome of which is determined largely by chance, but 21
does not include bingo. 22

(E) "Game of chance conducted for profit" means any game of 23
chance designed to produce income for the person who conducts or 24
operates the game of chance, but does not include bingo. 25

(F) "Gambling device" means any of the following: 26

(1) A book, totalizer, or other equipment for recording bets; 27

(2) A ticket, token, or other device representing a chance, 28
share, or interest in a scheme of chance or evidencing a bet; 29

(3) A deck of cards, dice, gaming table, roulette wheel, slot 30
machine, or other apparatus designed for use in connection with a 31
game of chance; 32

(4) Any equipment, device, apparatus, or paraphernalia 33
specially designed for gambling purposes; 34

(5) Bingo supplies sold or otherwise provided, or used, in 35
violation of this chapter. 36

(G) "Gambling offense" means any of the following: 37

(1) A violation of section 2915.02, 2915.03, 2915.04, 38
2915.05, 2915.06, 2915.07, 2915.08, 2915.081, 2915.082, 2915.09, 39
2915.091, 2915.092, 2915.10, or 2915.11 of the Revised Code; 40

(2) A violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance 41
or law of this or any other state or the United States 42
substantially equivalent to any section listed in division (G)(1) 43
of this section or a violation of section 2915.06 of the Revised 44
Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996; 45

(3) An offense under an existing or former municipal 46

ordinance or law of this or any other state or the United States, 47
of which gambling is an element; 48

(4) A conspiracy or attempt to commit, or complicity in 49
committing, any offense under division (G)(1), (2), or (3) of this 50
section. 51

(H) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, "charitable 52
organization" means any tax exempt religious, educational, 53
veteran's, fraternal, sporting, service, nonprofit medical, 54
volunteer rescue service, volunteer firefighter's, senior 55
citizen's, historic railroad educational, youth athletic, amateur 56
athletic, or youth athletic park organization. An organization is 57
tax exempt if the organization is, and has received from the 58
internal revenue service a determination letter that currently is 59
in effect stating that the organization is, exempt from federal 60
income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in 61
subsection 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 62
501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, or if the organization is 63
a sporting organization that is exempt from federal income 64
taxation under subsection 501(a) and is described in subsection 65
501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. To qualify as a charitable 66
organization, an organization, except a volunteer rescue service 67
or volunteer firefighter's organization, shall have been in 68
continuous existence as such in this state for a period of two 69
years immediately preceding either the making of an application 70
for a bingo license under section 2915.08 of the Revised Code or 71
the conducting of any game of chance as provided in division (D) 72
of section 2915.02 of the Revised Code. A charitable organization 73
that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 74
501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal 75
Revenue Code and that is created by a veteran's organization, a 76
fraternal organization, or a sporting organization does not have 77
to have been in continuous existence as such in this state for a 78

period of two years immediately preceding either the making of an 79
application for a bingo license under section 2915.08 of the 80
Revised Code or the conducting of any game of chance as provided 81
in division (D) of section 2915.02 of the Revised Code. 82

(I) "Religious organization" means any church, body of 83
communicants, or group that is not organized or operated for 84
profit and that gathers in common membership for regular worship 85
and religious observances. 86

(J) "Educational organization" means any organization within 87
this state that is not organized for profit, the primary purpose 88
of which is to educate and develop the capabilities of individuals 89
through instruction by means of operating or contributing to the 90
support of a school, academy, college, or university. 91

(K) "Veteran's organization" means any individual post or 92
state headquarters of a national veteran's association or an 93
auxiliary unit of any individual post of a national veteran's 94
association, which post, state headquarters, or auxiliary unit has 95
been in continuous existence in this state for at least two years 96
and incorporated as a nonprofit corporation and either has 97
received a letter from the state headquarters of the national 98
veteran's association indicating that the individual post or 99
auxiliary unit is in good standing with the national veteran's 100
association or has received a letter from the national veteran's 101
association indicating that the state headquarters is in good 102
standing with the national veteran's association. As used in this 103
division, "national veteran's association" means any veteran's 104
association that has been in continuous existence as such for a 105
period of at least five years and either is incorporated by an act 106
of the United States congress or has a national dues-paying 107
membership of at least five thousand persons. 108

(L) "Volunteer firefighter's organization" means any 109
organization of volunteer firefighters, as defined in section 110

146.01 of the Revised Code, that is organized and operated 111
exclusively to provide financial support for a volunteer fire 112
department or a volunteer fire company and that is recognized or 113
ratified by a county, municipal corporation, or township. 114

(M) "Fraternal organization" means any society, order, state 115
headquarters, or association within this state, except a college 116
or high school fraternity, that is not organized for profit, that 117
is a branch, lodge, or chapter of a national or state 118
organization, that exists exclusively for the common business or 119
sodality of its members, and that has been in continuous existence 120
in this state for a period of five years. 121

(N) "Volunteer rescue service organization" means any 122
organization of volunteers organized to function as an emergency 123
medical service organization, as defined in section 4765.01 of the 124
Revised Code. 125

(O) "Service organization" means either of the following: 126

(1) Any organization, not organized for profit, that is 127
organized and operated exclusively to provide, or to contribute to 128
the support of organizations or institutions organized and 129
operated exclusively to provide, medical and therapeutic services 130
for persons who are crippled, born with birth defects, or have any 131
other mental or physical defect or those organized and operated 132
exclusively to protect, or to contribute to the support of 133
organizations or institutions organized and operated exclusively 134
to protect, animals from inhumane treatment or provide immediate 135
shelter to victims of domestic violence; 136

(2) Any organization that is described in subsection 137
509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code 138
and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax 139
exempt under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 140
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that is an 141

organization, not organized for profit, that is organized and 142
operated primarily to provide, or to contribute to the support of 143
organizations or institutions organized and operated primarily to 144
provide, medical and therapeutic services for persons who are 145
crippled, born with birth defects, or have any other mental or 146
physical defect. 147

(P) "Nonprofit medical organization" means either of the 148
following: 149

(1) Any organization that has been incorporated as a 150
nonprofit corporation for at least five years and that has 151
continuously operated and will be operated exclusively to provide, 152
or to contribute to the support of organizations or institutions 153
organized and operated exclusively to provide, hospital, medical, 154
research, or therapeutic services for the public; 155

(2) Any organization that is described and qualified under 156
subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that has been 157
incorporated as a nonprofit corporation for at least five years, 158
and that has continuously operated and will be operated primarily 159
to provide, or to contribute to the support of organizations or 160
institutions organized and operated primarily to provide, 161
hospital, medical, research, or therapeutic services for the 162
public. 163

(Q) "Senior citizen's organization" means any private 164
organization, not organized for profit, that is organized and 165
operated exclusively to provide recreational or social services 166
for persons who are fifty-five years of age or older and that is 167
described and qualified under subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal 168
Revenue Code. 169

(R) "Charitable bingo game" means any bingo game described in 170
division (S)(1) or (2) of this section that is conducted by a 171
charitable organization that has obtained a license pursuant to 172

section 2915.08 of the Revised Code and the proceeds of which are 173
used for a charitable purpose. 174

(S) "Bingo" means either of the following: 175

(1) A game with all of the following characteristics: 176

(a) The participants use bingo cards or sheets, including 177
paper formats and electronic representation or image formats, that 178
are divided into twenty-five spaces arranged in five horizontal 179
and five vertical rows of spaces, with each space, except the 180
central space, being designated by a combination of a letter and a 181
number and with the central space being designated as a free 182
space. 183

(b) The participants cover the spaces on the bingo cards or 184
sheets that correspond to combinations of letters and numbers that 185
are announced by a bingo game operator. 186

(c) A bingo game operator announces combinations of letters 187
and numbers that appear on objects that a bingo game operator 188
selects by chance, either manually or mechanically, from a 189
receptacle that contains seventy-five objects at the beginning of 190
each game, each object marked by a different combination of a 191
letter and a number that corresponds to one of the seventy-five 192
possible combinations of a letter and a number that can appear on 193
the bingo cards or sheets. 194

(d) The winner of the bingo game includes any participant who 195
properly announces during the interval between the announcements 196
of letters and numbers as described in division (S)(1)(c) of this 197
section, that a predetermined and preannounced pattern of spaces 198
has been covered on a bingo card or sheet being used by the 199
participant. 200

(2) Instant bingo, punch boards, and raffles. 201

(T) "Conduct" means to back, promote, organize, manage, carry 202

on, sponsor, or prepare for the operation of bingo or a game of 203
chance. 204

(U) "Bingo game operator" means any person, except security 205
personnel, who performs work or labor at the site of bingo, 206
including, but not limited to, collecting money from participants, 207
handing out bingo cards or sheets or objects to cover spaces on 208
bingo cards or sheets, selecting from a receptacle the objects 209
that contain the combination of letters and numbers that appear on 210
bingo cards or sheets, calling out the combinations of letters and 211
numbers, distributing prizes, selling or redeeming instant bingo 212
tickets or cards, supervising the operation of a punch board, 213
selling raffle tickets, selecting raffle tickets from a receptacle 214
and announcing the winning numbers in a raffle, and preparing, 215
selling, and serving food or beverages. 216

(V) "Participant" means any person who plays bingo. 217

(W) "Bingo session" means a period that includes both of the 218
following: 219

(1) Not to exceed five continuous hours for the conduct of 220
one or more games described in division (S)(1) of this section, 221
instant bingo, and seal cards; 222

(2) A period for the conduct of instant bingo and seal cards 223
for not more than two hours before and not more than two hours 224
after the period described in division (W)(1) of this section. 225

(X) "Gross receipts" means all money or assets, including 226
admission fees, that a person receives from bingo without the 227
deduction of any amounts for prizes paid out or for the expenses 228
of conducting bingo. "Gross receipts" does not include any money 229
directly taken in from the sale of food or beverages by a 230
charitable organization conducting bingo, or by a bona fide 231
auxiliary unit or society of a charitable organization conducting 232
bingo, provided all of the following apply: 233

(1) The auxiliary unit or society has been in existence as a 234
bona fide auxiliary unit or society of the charitable organization 235
for at least two years prior to conducting bingo. 236

(2) The person who purchases the food or beverage receives 237
nothing of value except the food or beverage and items customarily 238
received with the purchase of that food or beverage. 239

(3) The food and beverages are sold at customary and 240
reasonable prices. 241

(Y) "Security personnel" includes any person who either is a 242
sheriff, deputy sheriff, marshal, deputy marshal, township 243
constable, or member of an organized police department of a 244
municipal corporation or has successfully completed a peace 245
officer's training course pursuant to sections 109.71 to 109.79 of 246
the Revised Code and who is hired to provide security for the 247
premises on which bingo is conducted. 248

(Z) "Charitable purpose" means that the net profit of bingo, 249
other than instant bingo, is used by, or is given, donated, or 250
otherwise transferred to, any of the following: 251

(1) Any organization that is described in subsection 252
509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code 253
and is either a governmental unit or an organization that is tax 254
exempt under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 255
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; 256

(2) A veteran's organization that is a post, chapter, or 257
organization of veterans, or an auxiliary unit or society of, or a 258
trust or foundation for, any such post, chapter, or organization 259
organized in the United States or any of its possessions, at least 260
seventy-five per cent of the members of which are veterans and 261
substantially all of the other members of which are individuals 262
who are spouses, widows, or widowers of veterans, or such 263
individuals, provided that no part of the net earnings of such 264

post, chapter, or organization inures to the benefit of any 265
private shareholder or individual, and further provided that the 266
net profit is used by the post, chapter, or organization for the 267
charitable purposes set forth in division (B)(12) of section 268
5739.02 of the Revised Code, is used for awarding scholarships to 269
or for attendance at an institution mentioned in division (B)(12) 270
of section 5739.02 of the Revised Code, is donated to a 271
governmental agency, or is used for nonprofit youth activities, 272
the purchase of United States or Ohio flags that are donated to 273
schools, youth groups, or other bona fide nonprofit organizations, 274
promotion of patriotism, or disaster relief; 275

(3) A fraternal organization that has been in continuous 276
existence in this state for fifteen years and that uses the net 277
profit exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, 278
literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of 279
cruelty to children or animals, if contributions for such use 280
would qualify as a deductible charitable contribution under 281
subsection 170 of the Internal Revenue Code; 282

(4) A volunteer firefighter's organization that uses the net 283
profit for the purposes set forth in division (L) of this section. 284

(AA) "Internal Revenue Code" means the "Internal Revenue Code 285
of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as now or hereafter 286
amended. 287

(BB) "Youth athletic organization" means any organization, 288
not organized for profit, that is organized and operated 289
exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, 290
athletic activities for persons who are twenty-one years of age or 291
younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or 292
contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or 293
association. 294

(CC) "Youth athletic park organization" means any 295

organization, not organized for profit, that satisfies both of the 296
following: 297

(1) It owns, operates, and maintains playing fields that 298
satisfy both of the following: 299

(a) The playing fields are used at least one hundred days per 300
year for athletic activities by one or more organizations, not 301
organized for profit, each of which is organized and operated 302
exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, 303
athletic activities for persons who are eighteen years of age or 304
younger by means of sponsoring, organizing, operating, or 305
contributing to the support of an athletic team, club, league, or 306
association. 307

(b) The playing fields are not used for any profit-making 308
activity at any time during the year. 309

(2) It uses the proceeds of bingo it conducts exclusively for 310
the operation, maintenance, and improvement of its playing fields 311
of the type described in division (CC)(1) of this section. 312

(DD) "Amateur athletic organization" means any organization, 313
not organized for profit, that is organized and operated 314
exclusively to provide financial support to, or to operate, 315
athletic activities for persons who are training for amateur 316
athletic competition that is sanctioned by a national governing 317
body as defined in the "Amateur Sports Act of 1978," 90 Stat. 318
3045, 36 U.S.C.A. 373. 319

(EE) "Bingo supplies" means bingo cards or sheets; instant 320
bingo tickets or cards; electronic bingo aids; raffle tickets; 321
punch boards; seal cards; instant bingo ticket dispensers; and 322
devices for selecting or displaying the combination of bingo 323
letters and numbers or raffle tickets. Items that are "bingo 324
supplies" are not gambling devices if sold or otherwise provided, 325
and used, in accordance with this chapter. For purposes of this 326

chapter, "bingo supplies" are not to be considered equipment used 327
to conduct a bingo game. 328

(FF) "Instant bingo" means a form of bingo that uses folded 329
or banded tickets or paper cards with perforated break-open tabs, 330
a face of which is covered or otherwise hidden from view to 331
conceal a number, letter, or symbol, or set of numbers, letters, 332
or symbols, some of which have been designated in advance as prize 333
winners. "Instant bingo" includes seal cards. "Instant bingo" does 334
not include any device that is activated by the insertion of a 335
coin, currency, token, or an equivalent, and that contains as one 336
of its components a video display monitor that is capable of 337
displaying numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or 338
losing combinations. 339

(GG) "Seal card" means a form of instant bingo that uses 340
instant bingo tickets in conjunction with a board or placard that 341
contains one or more seals that, when removed or opened, reveal 342
predesignated winning numbers, letters, or symbols. 343

(HH) "Raffle" means a form of bingo in which the one or more 344
prizes are won by one or more persons who have purchased a raffle 345
ticket. The one or more winners of the raffle are determined by 346
drawing a ticket stub or other detachable section from a 347
receptacle containing ticket stubs or detachable sections 348
corresponding to all tickets sold for the raffle. 349

(II) "Punch board" means a board containing a number of holes 350
or receptacles of uniform size in which are placed, mechanically 351
and randomly, serially numbered slips of paper that may be punched 352
or drawn from the hole or receptacle when used in conjunction with 353
instant bingo. A player may punch or draw the numbered slips of 354
paper from the holes or receptacles and obtain the prize 355
established for the game if the number drawn corresponds to a 356
winning number or, if the punch board includes the use of a seal 357
card, a potential winning number. 358

(JJ) "Gross profit" means gross receipts minus the amount	359
actually expended for the payment of prize awards.	360
(KK) "Net profit" means gross profit minus expenses.	361
(LL) "Expenses" means the reasonable amount of gross profit	362
actually expended for all of the following:	363
(1) The purchase or lease of bingo supplies;	364
(2) The annual license fee required under section 2915.08 of	365
the Revised Code;	366
(3) Bank fees and service charges for a bingo session or game	367
account described in section 2915.10 of the Revised Code;	368
(4) Audits and accounting services;	369
(5) Safes;	370
(6) Cash registers;	371
(7) Hiring security personnel;	372
(8) Advertising bingo;	373
(9) Renting premises in which to conduct a bingo session;	374
(10) Tables and chairs;	375
(11) Expenses for maintaining and operating a charitable	376
organization's facilities, including, but not limited to, a post	377
home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen and any grounds	378
attached to the post home, club house, lounge, tavern, or canteen;	379
(12) Any other product or service directly related to the	380
conduct of bingo that is authorized in rules adopted by the	381
attorney general under division (B)(1) of section 2915.08 of the	382
Revised Code.	383
(MM) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the	384
Revised Code and includes any firm or any other legal entity,	385
however organized.	386

(NN) "Revoke" means to void permanently all rights and 387
privileges of the holder of a license issued under section 388
2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 of the Revised Code or a charitable 389
gaming license issued by another jurisdiction. 390

(OO) "Suspend" means to interrupt temporarily all rights and 391
privileges of the holder of a license issued under section 392
2915.08, 2915.081, or 2915.082 of the Revised Code or a charitable 393
gaming license issued by another jurisdiction. 394

(PP) "Distributor" means any person who purchases or obtains 395
bingo supplies and who does either of the following: 396

(1) Sells, offers for sale, or otherwise provides or offers 397
to provide the bingo supplies to another person for use in this 398
state; 399

(2) Modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from the 400
bingo supplies to further their promotion or sale for use in this 401
state. 402

(QQ) "Manufacturer" means any person who assembles completed 403
bingo supplies from raw materials, other items, or subparts or who 404
modifies, converts, adds to, or removes parts from bingo supplies 405
to further their promotion or sale. 406

(RR) "Gross annual revenues" means the annual gross receipts 407
derived from the conduct of bingo described in division (S)(1) of 408
this section plus the annual net profit derived from the conduct 409
of bingo described in division (S)(2) of this section. 410

(SS) "Instant bingo ticket dispenser" means a mechanical 411
device that dispenses an instant bingo ticket or card as the sole 412
item of value dispensed and that has the following 413
characteristics: 414

(1) It is activated upon the insertion of United States 415
currency. 416

(2) It performs no gaming functions.	417
(3) It does not contain a video display monitor or generate noise.	418 419
(4) It is not capable of displaying any numbers, letters, symbols, or characters in winning or losing combinations.	420 421
(5) It does not simulate or display rolling or spinning reels.	422 423
(6) It is incapable of determining whether a dispensed bingo ticket or card is a winning or nonwinning ticket or card and requires a winning ticket or card to be paid by a bingo game operator.	424 425 426 427
(7) It may provide accounting and security features to aid in accounting for the instant bingo tickets or cards it dispenses.	428 429
(8) It is not part of an electronic network and is not interactive.	430 431
<u>(9) The insertion of tickets or cards into the device and the removal of currency from the device that has been inserted into the device are controlled by two separate keys that are controlled by two separate individuals.</u>	432 433 434 435
(TT)(1) "Electronic bingo aid" means an electronic device used by a participant to monitor bingo cards or sheets purchased at the time and place of a bingo session and that does all of the following:	436 437 438 439
(a) It provides a means for a participant to input numbers and letters announced by a bingo caller.	440 441
(b) It compares the numbers and letters entered by the participant to the bingo faces previously stored in the memory of the device.	442 443 444
(c) It identifies a winning bingo pattern.	445

(2) "Electronic bingo aid" does not include any device into 446
which a coin, currency, token, or an equivalent is inserted to 447
activate play. 448

(UU) "Deal of instant bingo tickets" means a single game of 449
instant bingo tickets all with the same serial number. 450

(VV)(1) "Slot machine" means either of the following: 451

(a) Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that 452
is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, 453
from or on behalf of a player who gives the thing of value in the 454
hope of gain; 455

(b) Any mechanical, electronic, video, or digital device that 456
is capable of accepting anything of value, directly or indirectly, 457
from or on behalf of a player to conduct or dispense bingo or a 458
scheme or game of chance. 459

(2) "Slot machine" does not include a skill-based amusement 460
machine. 461

(WW) "Net profit from the proceeds of the sale of instant 462
bingo" means gross profit minus the ordinary, necessary, and 463
reasonable expense expended for the purchase of instant bingo 464
supplies. 465

(XX) "Charitable instant bingo organization" means an 466
organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under 467
subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the 468
Internal Revenue Code and is a charitable organization as defined 469
in this section. A "charitable instant bingo organization" does 470
not include a charitable organization that is exempt from federal 471
income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in 472
subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that is 473
created by a veteran's organization, a fraternal organization, or 474
a sporting organization in regards to bingo conducted or assisted 475
by a veteran's organization, a fraternal organization, or a 476

sporting organization pursuant to section 2915.13 of the Revised Code. 477
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(YY) "Game flare" means the board or placard that accompanies each deal of instant bingo tickets and that has printed on or affixed to it the following information for the game: 479
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(1) The name of the game; 482

(2) The manufacturer's name or distinctive logo; 483

(3) The form number; 484

(4) The ticket count; 485

(5) The prize structure, including the number of winning instant bingo tickets by denomination and the respective winning symbol or number combinations for the winning instant bingo tickets; 486
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(6) The cost per play; 490

(7) The serial number of the game. 491

(ZZ) "Historic railroad educational organization" means an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that owns in fee simple the tracks and the right of way of a historic railroad that the organization restores or maintains and on which the organization provides excursions as part of a program to promote tourism and educate visitors regarding the role of railroad transportation in Ohio history, and that received as donations from a charitable organization that holds a license to conduct bingo under this chapter an amount equal to at least fifty per cent of that licensed charitable organization's net proceeds from the conduct of bingo during each of the five years preceding June 30, 2003. "Historic railroad" means all or a portion of the tracks and right-of-way of a railroad that was owned and operated by a for-profit common 492
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carrier in this state at any time prior to January 1, 1950. 507

(AAA)(1) "Skill-based amusement machine" means a mechanical, 508
video, digital, or electronic device that rewards the player or 509
players, if at all, only with merchandise prizes or with 510
redeemable vouchers redeemable only for merchandise prizes, 511
provided that with respect to rewards for playing the game all of 512
the following apply: 513

(a) The wholesale value of a merchandise prize awarded as a 514
result of the single play of a machine does not exceed ten 515
dollars; 516

(b) Redeemable vouchers awarded for any single play of a 517
machine are not redeemable for a merchandise prize with a 518
wholesale value of more than ten dollars; 519

(c) Redeemable vouchers are not redeemable for a merchandise 520
prize that has a wholesale value of more than ten dollars times 521
the fewest number of single plays necessary to accrue the 522
redeemable vouchers required to obtain that prize; and 523

(d) Any redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes are 524
distributed at the site of the skill-based amusement machine at 525
the time of play. 526

(2) A device shall not be considered a skill-based amusement 527
machine and shall be considered a slot machine if it pays cash or 528
one or more of the following apply: 529

(a) The ability of a player to succeed at the game is 530
impacted by the number or ratio of prior wins to prior losses of 531
players playing the game. 532

(b) Any reward of redeemable vouchers is not based solely on 533
the player achieving the object of the game or the ~~players~~ 534
player's score; 535

(c) The outcome of the game, or the value of the redeemable 536

voucher or merchandise prize awarded for winning the game, can be 537
controlled by a source other than any player playing the game. 538

(d) The success of any player is or may be determined by a 539
chance event that cannot be altered by player actions. 540

(e) The ability of any player to succeed at the game is 541
determined by game features not visible or known to the player. 542

(f) The ability of the player to succeed at the game is 543
impacted by the exercise of a skill that no reasonable player 544
could exercise. 545

(3) All of the following apply to any machine that is 546
operated as described in division (AAA)(1) of this section: 547

(a) As used in this section, "game" and "play" mean one event 548
from the initial activation of the machine until the results of 549
play are determined without payment of additional consideration. 550
An individual utilizing a machine that involves a single game, 551
play, contest, competition, or tournament may be awarded 552
redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes based on the results of 553
play. 554

(b) Advance play for a single game, play, contest, 555
competition, or tournament participation may be purchased. The 556
cost of the contest, competition, or tournament participation may 557
be greater than a single noncontest, competition, or tournament 558
play. 559

(c) To the extent that the machine is used in a contest, 560
competition, or tournament, that contest, competition, or 561
tournament has a defined starting and ending date and is open to 562
participants in competition for scoring and ranking results toward 563
the awarding of redeemable vouchers or merchandise prizes that are 564
stated prior to the start of the contest, competition, or 565
tournament. 566

(4) For purposes of division (AAA)(1) of this section, the mere presence of a device, such as a pin-setting, ball-releasing, or scoring mechanism, that does not contribute to or affect the outcome of the play of the game does not make the device a skill-based amusement machine.

(BBB) "Merchandise prize" means any item of value, but shall not include any of the following:

(1) Cash, gift cards, or any equivalent thereof;

(2) Plays on games of chance, state lottery tickets, bingo, or instant bingo;

(3) Firearms, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages; or

(4) A redeemable voucher that is redeemable for any of the items listed in division (BBB)(1), (2), or (3) of this section.

(CCC) "Redeemable voucher" means any ticket, token, coupon, receipt, or other noncash representation of value.

(DDD) "Pool not conducted for profit" means a scheme in which a participant gives a valuable consideration for a chance to win a prize and the total amount of consideration wagered is distributed to a participant or participants.

(EEE) "Sporting organization" means a hunting, fishing, or trapping organization, other than a college or high school fraternity or sorority, that is not organized for profit, that is affiliated with a state or national sporting organization, including but not limited to, the Ohio league of sportsmen, and that has been in continuous existence in this state for a period of three years.

(FFF) "Community action agency" has the same meaning as in section 122.66 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 2915.091. (A) No charitable organization that conducts

instant bingo shall do any of the following: 596

(1) Fail to comply with the requirements of divisions (A)(1), 597
(2), and (3) of section 2915.09 of the Revised Code; 598

(2) Conduct instant bingo unless either of the following 599
~~apply~~ applies: 600

(a) That organization is, and has received from the internal 601
revenue service a determination letter that is currently in effect 602
stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income 603
taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 604
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is a charitable 605
organization as defined in section 2915.01 of the Revised Code, is 606
in good standing in the state pursuant to section 2915.08 of the 607
Revised Code, and is in compliance with Chapter 1716. of the 608
Revised Code; 609

(b) That organization is, and has received from the internal 610
revenue service a determination letter that is currently in effect 611
stating that the organization is, exempt from federal income 612
taxation under subsection 501(a), is described in subsection 613
501(c)(7), 501(c)(8), 501(c)(10), or 501(c)(19) or is a veteran's 614
organization described in subsection 501(c)(4) of the Internal 615
Revenue Code, and conducts instant bingo under section 2915.13 of 616
the Revised Code. 617

(3) Conduct instant bingo on any day, at any time, or at any 618
premises not specified on the organization's license issued 619
pursuant to section 2915.08 of the Revised Code; 620

(4) Permit any person whom the organization knows or should 621
have known has been convicted of a felony or gambling offense in 622
any jurisdiction to be a bingo game operator in the conduct of 623
instant bingo; 624

(5) Purchase or lease supplies used to conduct instant bingo 625

or punch board games from any person except a distributor licensed 626
under section 2915.081 of the Revised Code; 627

(6) Sell or provide any instant bingo ticket or card for a 628
price different from the price printed on it by the manufacturer 629
on either the instant bingo ticket or card or on the game flare; 630

(7) Sell an instant bingo ticket or card to a person under 631
eighteen years of age; 632

(8) Fail to keep unsold instant bingo tickets or cards for 633
less than three years; 634

(9) Pay any compensation to a bingo game operator for 635
conducting instant bingo that is conducted by the organization or 636
for preparing, selling, or serving food or beverages at the site 637
of the instant bingo game, permit any auxiliary unit or society of 638
the organization to pay compensation to any bingo game operator 639
who prepares, sells, or serves food or beverages at an instant 640
bingo game conducted by the organization, or permit any auxiliary 641
unit or society of the organization to prepare, sell, or serve 642
food or beverages at an instant bingo game conducted by the 643
organization, if the auxiliary unit or society pays any 644
compensation to the bingo game operators who prepare, sell, or 645
serve the food or beverages; 646

(10) Pay fees to any person for any services performed in 647
relation to an instant bingo game; 648

(11) Pay fees to any person who provides refreshments to the 649
participants in an instant bingo game; 650

(12)(a) Allow instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold to 651
bingo game operators at a premises at which the organization sells 652
instant bingo tickets or cards or to be sold to employees of a D 653
permit holder who are working at a premises at which instant bingo 654
tickets or cards are sold; 655

(b) Division (A)(12)(a) of this section does not prohibit a 656
licensed charitable organization or a bingo game operator from 657
giving any person an instant bingo ~~tickets~~ ticket as a prize. 658

(13) Fail to display its bingo license, and the serial 659
numbers of the deal of instant bingo tickets or cards to be sold, 660
conspicuously at each premises at which it sells instant bingo 661
tickets or cards; 662

(14) Possess a deal of instant bingo tickets or cards that 663
was not purchased from a distributor licensed under section 664
2915.081 of the Revised Code as reflected on an invoice issued by 665
the distributor that contains all of the information required by 666
division (E) of section 2915.10 of the Revised Code; 667

(15) Fail, once it opens a deal of instant bingo tickets or 668
cards, to continue to sell the tickets or cards in that deal until 669
the tickets or cards with the top two highest tiers of prizes in 670
that deal are sold; 671

~~(16) Purchase, lease, or use instant bingo ticket dispensers 672
to sell instant bingo tickets or cards; 673~~

~~(17) Possess bingo supplies that were not obtained in 674
accordance with sections 2915.01 to 2915.13 of the Revised Code. 675~~

(B)(1) A charitable organization may conduct instant bingo 676
other than at a bingo session at not more than five separate 677
locations. A charitable organization that is exempt from federal 678
taxation under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 679
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that is created by a 680
veteran's organization or a fraternal organization is not limited 681
in the number of separate locations the charitable organization 682
may conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session. 683

(2) A charitable organization may purchase, lease, or use 684
instant bingo ticket dispensers to sell instant bingo tickets or 685
cards. 686

(C) The attorney general may adopt rules in accordance with 687
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that govern the conduct of 688
instant bingo by charitable organizations. Before those rules are 689
adopted, the attorney general shall reference the recommended 690
standards for opacity, randomization, minimum information, winner 691
protection, color, and cutting for instant bingo tickets or cards, 692
seal cards, and punch boards established by the North American 693
gaming regulators association. 694

(D) Whoever violates division (A) of this section or a rule 695
adopted under division (C) of this section is guilty of illegal 696
instant bingo conduct. Except as otherwise provided in this 697
division, illegal instant bingo conduct is a misdemeanor of the 698
first degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of a 699
violation of division (A) of this section or of such a rule, 700
illegal instant bingo conduct is a felony of the fifth degree. 701

Section 2. That existing sections 2915.01 and 2915.091 of the 702
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 703