

CHAPTER 809

(Senate Bill 421)

AN ACT to add new Section 20A to Article 56 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Licenses", sub-title "Pinball Machines and Console Machines", to follow immediately after Section 20 thereof providing for the licensing and regulation of pinball and console machines AND CERTAIN OTHER MACHINES AND DEVICES, INCLUDING CERTAIN ARCADES, in Worcester County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 20A be and it is hereby added to Article 56 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Licenses", sub-title "Pinball Machines and Console Machines", to follow immediately after Section 20 thereof and to read as follows:

20A.

(a) *The Board of County Commissioners of Worcester County is hereby authorized to declare that the operation of "free play pinball machines" (as defined in Section 19 of this Article) and of "free play console machines" (as defined in the aforesaid Section 19) is legal. Said Board is also authorized to provide for the licensing of each person, firm or corporation maintaining, operating and/or conducting said machines in Worcester County and to establish annual license fees therefor. Provided, however, that the license fee for each machine shall, in no event, be less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00, and to prescribe regulations for the issuance of such licenses. The money collected from said licenses shall go to the general funds of the county. Any person, firm or corporation keeping, maintaining, possessing and/or operating any of the aforesaid machines without a license obtained from said Board, or of violating any regulation to be hereafter adopted by said Board for the issuance of such license and/or the maintenance and operation of any machine licensed hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$1,000.*

(b) *The provisions of this Section shall also apply to the licensing of any claw machine, shuffleboard, mechanical bowling game, SINGLE COIN PINBALL MACHINE, or any similar device for public amusement whose operation required the insertion of a coin or token, and the result of whose operation depends in whole or part upon the skill of the operator. THE LICENSE FEE FOR EACH SUCH MACHINE OR DEVICE SHALL NOT, IN ANY EVENT, BE LESS THAN \$10 NOR MORE THAN \$50, AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY.*

(C) ANY ARCADE IN OCEAN CITY HAVING FIFTY OR MORE OF SUCH MACHINES OR OTHER DEVICES ON THE PREMISES MAY SECURE AN ARCADE LICENSE, AS IN THIS SUB-SECTION PROVIDED. IF THERE ARE FROM FIFTY TO

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.