

## CHAPTER 708

(House Bill 218)

AN ACT to add a new section to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Gaming", said new section to be known as Section 302½ and to follow immediately after Section 302 of said Article, making it lawful to hold or conduct carnivals, bazaars, or raffles by certain organizations or corporations for the benefit of certain religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', hospital, amateur athletic or charitable organizations or corporations in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, and submitting this Act to a referendum by the voters of Baltimore City and Baltimore County, respectively.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new section be and it is hereby added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement) title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Gaming", said new section to be known as Section 302½, to follow immediately after Section 302 of said Article, and to read as follows:

302½. Nothing in this sub-title shall be construed to make it unlawful for any bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', hospital, amateur athletic organization in which all playing members are less than eighteen years of age, or charitable organization or corporation in Baltimore City or Baltimore County to conduct or hold a carnival, bazaar or raffle for the benefit of any such religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', hospital, amateur athletic or charitable organization or corporation, provided that no individual or group of individuals shall benefit financially from the holding of any such bazaar, carnival, or raffle or shall receive or be paid any of the proceeds from any such carnival, bazaar or raffle for personal use or benefit. At such carnival, bazaar or raffle, it shall be lawful to award prizes to any individual in merchandise up to \$15.00 in any one game or spin by such devices as are commonly designated as paddle wheels or wheels of fortune. At such carnival, bazaar or raffle, it shall be lawful to award prizes to any individual in merchandise up to \$500.00 in any one raffle by means of chance books, but no one organization shall have more than two such raffles in any one year. Before any such carnival, bazaar or raffle shall be operated, such group, organization or corporation shall first obtain from the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City, or the Chief of Police of Baltimore County, as the case may be, a