

18A. (1) No free play pinball machines, as hereinafter defined, or any free play console machine, as hereinafter defined, which shall be operated or played by the insertion of a coin or token, shall be kept, maintained or operated for the purpose of public entertainment only within the State of Maryland, unless a license has been previously obtained for each such machine from the Clerk of the Circuit Court in the County in which said machine is to be operated or maintained. Any person, partnership, firm or corporation applying for such license, shall pay therefor the sum of ~~ten (\$10.00)~~ TWENTY (\$20.00) dollars per annum for each free play pinball machine, as hereinafter defined, and the sum of ~~twenty-five (\$25.00)~~ THIRTY-FIVE (\$35.00) dollars per annum for each free play console machine as hereinafter defined. Each machine licensed hereunder shall have affixed to it a certificate issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the County in which said machine is to be operated or maintained, showing that the fee for the current year has been paid. All licenses shall expire on the thirtieth day of April in each year, shall be transferable to any machine of the same type and the fee shall be prorated monthly. All license fees collected under the provisions of this section shall be paid to the County Clerk for deposit in the "County Fund", and disbursed therefrom in the manner and for the purposes prescribed by the County Commissioners.

(2) For the purposes of this section a "free play pinball machine" is defined as a machine which, upon the insertion of one or more coins, causes the mechanism to release one or more balls for the use of the player, to be propelled by means of a plunger.

Upon the obtaining of certain scores or combinations of numbers, the machine rewards the player with a specified number of free games, allowing the player to continue to play the machine without the insertion of additional coins or tokens. The free play pinball machine shall not pay out either cash or tokens. For the purposes of this section, a "free play console machine" is defined as a machine, the mechanism of which is encased in a wooden or metal cabinet, with a backboard upon which are certain combinations of numbers or symbols which the player must match. The insertion of one or more coins or tokens by the player releases the mechanism and causes two or more reels to spin. If the reels stop on specified combinations, matching those on the back boards, the machine rewards the player with a specified number of free games, allowing the player to continue to play the machine without the insertion of additional coins or tokens. The free play console machine shall not pay out either cash or tokens.

(3) The maintenance, possession and operation of machines of either of the types hereinbefore described, and the awarding of free games to players of said machines, as above set forth, are hereby declared to be lawful when such machines are duly licensed in accordance with the provisions of this section, any other provision of the law notwithstanding. It shall, however, be unlawful for any person, partnership, firm or corporation maintaining, operating or possessing any such machine to permit the use or operation thereof by any person under the age of eighteen years.

(4) Any person, partnership, firm or corporation keeping, maintaining, possessing or operating any of the aforesaid machines without a license, as hereinbefore provided, or violating any of the other provisions of this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and