

CHAPTER 620

(House Bill 214)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 254 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-heading "Gaming", relating to maximum amounts payable as prizes under bingo games, carnivals and raffles in Harford County, and relating generally thereto.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 254 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-heading "Gaming", be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

254. Notwithstanding the provisions of this sub-title, the Sheriff of Harford County shall be authorized to issue a license to the following organizations to conduct games of bingo, a raffle, or a carnival awarding prizes by the use of paddle wheels, to wit:

(a) A tax supported volunteer fire company or auxiliary unit of which the members thereof are directly associated with such fire company.

(b) A nationally chartered veterans' organization or auxiliary unit of which the members thereof are directly associated with such organization.

(c) A bona fide religious group which has conducted religious services at a fixed location in Harford County for a period of at least three years prior to the application to the Sheriff.

(d) A nonprofit organization desiring to raise money for an exclusively charitable, athletic or educational purpose specifically described in the application to the Sheriff.

The application to the Sheriff for the issuance of said license shall contain a certification by one of the principal officers of the organization stating the following:

(a) The time and place of the activities for which the license is sought.

(b) That the activities for which the license is sought will be solely and personally conducted, managed, and operated by the regular members of the organization without the assistance of professionals.

(c) That no cash prizes greater than \$5.00 are to be offered, except a "jack pot" in the maximum amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) directly connected with bingo games *or one cash prize per year in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars*

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.