

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973.

Approved May 7, 1973.

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CHAPTER 342

(House Bill 1121)

AN ACT to add new Section 258B to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "Crimes and Punishments," subheading "Gaming," to follow immediately after Section 258A thereof, to provide that in Prince George's County limited cash prizes may be awarded by certain non-profit organizations of certain events conducted for certain limited purposes, and to provide for a permit to be granted under certain circumstances by the County; to make this Act an emergency measure.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 258B be and it is hereby added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "Crimes and Punishments," subheading "Gaming," to follow immediately after Section 258A thereof, and to read as follows:

258B.

ANY GROUP OF CITIZENS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, OR ANY COMPANY, ASSOCIATION OR BODY CORPORATE, BONA FIDE ORGANIZED OR HEREAFTER BONA FIDE ORGANIZED WITHIN SAID COUNTY FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE PURPOSES OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, OR OF ANY CHARITABLE, BENEVOLENT, PATRIOTIC, FRATERNAL, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS OR CIVIC OBJECT OR OBJECTS, AND NOT ORGANIZED FOR THE PRIVATE PROFIT OR GAIN OF ANY MEMBER OF SUCH GROUP, COMPANY, ASSOCIATION OR BODY CORPORATE, MAY CONDUCT AND OPERATE ANY BENEFIT PERFORMANCE, SUCH AS AN OUTDOOR OR INDOOR CARNIVAL, FAIR, PICNIC, DANCE, CARD PARTY, BINGO PARTY, BAZAAR, CONCERT, CONTEST, EXHIBITION, LECTURE, BARBECUE OR DINNER, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC IS INVITED OR ADMITTED WITH OR WITHOUT CHARGE FOR SUCH ADMISSION, THE NET PROCEEDS OF WHICH BENEFIT PERFORMANCE SHALL INURE TO SUCH GROUP, COMPANY, ASSOCIATION OR BODY CORPORATE FOR THE PROMOTION OF AND TO BE USED FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE OBJECTS HEREINBEFORE SET FORTH, AND NOT FOR THE PRIVATE GAIN OF ANY MEMBER OF SUCH GROUP OR ORGANIZATION; AND AT ANY SUCH BENEFIT PERFORMANCE, CONDUCTED UNDER THE CONDITIONS HEREIN PRESCRIBED, IT SHALL BE LAWFUL TO AWARD PRIZES IN MERCHANDISE, CONDUCT GAMES OF SKILL, TO DISPOSE OF MERCHANDISE AND OTHER THINGS OF VALUE BY AUCTION OR VOTING OR BY SUCH MECHANICAL DEVICES AS ARE COMMONLY DESIGNATED AS PADDLE WHEELS, WHEELS OF FORTUNE, BINGO, OR OTHER SIMILAR METHODS, AND WITH OR WITHOUT AN ENTRANCE OR PARTICIPATION CHARGE OR FEE; IT