

make it unlawful for any bona fide fraternal, religious, patriotic, educational, or charitable organization or charitable corporation, or volunteer fire company, or any carnival acting under the auspices of any such organization, corporation or company, to conduct or operate a game of bingo or a raffle for the benefit of charity in Charles County, or in furtherance of the purposes of such organization, corporation or volunteer fire company. No such bingo game shall award a cash prize in excess of [ten dollars (\$10.00)] \$25 to any player of a bingo game, except that the award of a "jackpot" in an amount not to exceed [three hundred dollars (\$300.00)] \$500 is allowed when directly connected with the playing of bingo games.

(b) It is unlawful for any individual, copartnership, corporation or any group or organization, whether or not legal residents of Charles County, to operate any game of bingo or raffle in Charles County, for personal gain.

(c) Nothing in this subtitle shall prohibit the conduct of bingo for merchandise prizes only at bona fide amusement parks in Charles County, which have not less than five adult rides, consisting of either roller coasters, airplane rides and landing fields, or other high-thrill rides and three children's rides, on a site of not less than thirty-five acres, provided that the concessionaire at such amusement park shall for three years next preceding the filing of his application for a permit have been a resident and a registered voter of Charles County, and provided further, that any such concessionaire must first obtain a permit therefor from the Sheriff of Charles County upon a form prescribed for that purpose by said Sheriff and upon payment of the prescribed annual license fee of \$300.00. No such bingo game shall award a merchandise prize in excess of [ten dollars (\$10.00)] \$25 to any player of a bingo game, except that the award of a "jackpot" in an amount not to exceed [three hundred dollars (\$300.00)] \$500 in merchandise is allowed when directly connected with the playing of bingo games.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved April 29, 1977.

CHAPTER 217

(Senate Bill 846)

AN ACT concerning