

Charles County - Bingo Games

FOR the purpose of altering the cash prize award for bingo in Charles County; restricting the frequency with which certain bingo games may be operated in certain facilities or locations in Charles County; and repealing certain provisions of law relating to bingo at amusement parks in Charles County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 253A
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

253A.

(a) Nothing (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, NOTHING in this subtitle shall be construed to 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 [\$25] \$50 to any player of a bingo game, except that the award of a "jackpot" in an amount not to exceed [\$500] \$1,000 is allowed when directly connected with the playing of bingo games.

(2) IT IS UNLAWFUL TO OPERATE BINGO GAMES UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MORE THAN 2 DAYS A WEEK AT ANY ONE FACILITY OR LOCATION.

(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