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H.173

Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Acinapura of Brandon,
Brennan of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Donaghy of
Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of
Fair Haven, Larocque of Barnet, McFaun of Barre Town,
McNeil of Rutland Town, Moran of Wardsboro, Pearce of
Richford, Perley of Enosburgh, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of
Pittsford, Smith of New Haven and Winters of Williamstown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes and criminal procedure; gambling and lotteries; nonprofit
organizations

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to increase the number and amount of
prizes that may be awarded by nonprofit organizations.

An act relating to games of chance

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1 13 V.S.A. § 2143 is amended to read:

§ 2143. NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

* * *

(d) Casino events shall be limited as follows:

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(4) For the purposes of this subsection, “casino event” means an event held during any 24-hour period at which any game of ~~change~~ chance is conducted except those prohibited by ~~13 V.S.A. § subdivision~~ 2135(a)(1) or (2) of this title. A “casino event” shall not include a fair, bazaar, field days, chuck-a-luck or other such games commonly conducted at such events, the card game queen of hearts, or break-open tickets, bingo, a lottery or a raffle.

(e) Games of chance shall be limited as follows:

* * *

(4) A nonprofit organization may offer a prize worth not more than ~~\$400.00~~ \$50,000.00 in value each day for a single game of chance, ~~except that the nonprofit organization may offer a prize worth not more than \$1,000.00 in value for one game per day, a prize worth not more than \$5,000.00 in value for one game per calendar month and a prize of a motor vehicle, firearm, motorcycle or watercraft worth not more than \$50,000.00 for one game per calendar year. A nonprofit organization may exceed the above prize limitations on four days per calendar year, if the days are at least 20 days a part and the total prize money offered for all games executed on the day does not exceed \$20,000.00 and not more than five days per week. The maximum combined value a nonprofit organization may award in one calendar year shall~~

1 not exceed \$100,000.00, including the value of any firearms, watercraft, or
2 motor vehicles awarded as prizes.

3 (5) A nonprofit organization shall not permit a person who organizes,
4 executes or works at a game of chance to play in any game of chance
5 organized or executed by that nonprofit on the same day.

6 (6) A nonprofit organization shall not organize and execute games of
7 chance on more than ~~two~~ five days in any calendar week, nor shall games of
8 chance be organized and executed at any location on more than ~~two~~ five days
9 in any calendar week, except that:

10 (A) Casino events may be conducted only as permitted under
11 subsection (d) of this section.

12 (B) Break-open tickets may be purchased and distributed only as
13 provided in 32 V.S.A. chapter 239.

14 ~~(C) A nonprofit organization may organize and execute games of~~
15 ~~chance on three consecutive days not more than twice in any calendar year as~~
16 ~~long as there are at least 90 days between each event.~~

17 ~~(D)~~ Agricultural fairs qualified to receive a state stipend pursuant to
18 31 V.S.A. § 617 may organize and execute games of chance for not more than
19 12 consecutive days during the fair once each calendar year.

20 ~~(E)~~(D) A nonprofit organization may organize and execute games of
21 chance at a location used by another nonprofit organization which results in the

1 location being used on more than ~~two~~ five days a week if all the nonprofit
2 organizations using the location were in existence as of January 1, 1994, and
3 are not affiliated with each other or under common control.

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