

By: Representative Dedeaux

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 891

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 97-33-52, 97-33-55, 97-33-65,
2 97-33-67, 97-33-69, 97-33-71, 97-33-73, 97-33-75, 97-33-77,
3 97-33-79, 97-33-81, 97-33-107, 97-33-109 AND 97-33-201,
4 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXEMPT VETERANS CHARITABLE
5 ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE STATE CHARITABLE BINGO LAW IF SUCH
6 ORGANIZATIONS HAVE INTERNAL RULES, REGULATIONS OR GUIDELINES FOR
7 CONDUCTING BINGO GAMES; TO AMEND SECTION 97-33-51, MISSISSIPPI
8 CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO; TO BRING FORWARD FOR PURPOSES
9 OF AMENDMENT SECTIONS 97-33-50, 97-33-53, 97-33-57, 97-33-59,
10 97-33-61, 97-33-101, 97-33-103, 97-33-105 AND 97-33-203,
11 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH ARE PORTIONS OF THE STATE
12 CHARITABLE BINGO LAW; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

14 SECTION 1. Section 97-33-52, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
15 amended as follows:

16 97-33-52. (1) A bingo game may be conducted only:

17 (a) When held for the benefit of a charitable
18 organization that (i) is licensed pursuant to Section 97-33-55 or
19 Section 97-33-59; (ii) is domiciled in the State of Mississippi;
20 and

21 (b) When the game is held by active members of such
22 organization.

23 (2) Except as may be otherwise provided in Sections 97-33-51
24 through 97-33-203, all net proceeds derived from a bingo game
25 authorized by this section shall be expended only for the purposes
26 for which the organization is created, and no net proceeds derived
27 from a bingo game authorized by this section shall be distributed
28 to a charity outside of the State of Mississippi without the
29 approval of the Mississippi Gaming Commission.

30 (3) None of the proceeds of a bingo game authorized to be
31 held under this section shall be used to purchase, construct or

32 improve a building, hall or other facility solely for the purpose
33 of conducting or operating a bingo game.

34 (4) Every organization which conducts bingo games shall
35 report to the Mississippi Gaming Commission at such time, in such
36 manner and on such forms as the commission prescribes. All
37 records and reports so filed shall be public records and shall be
38 available for inspection in accordance with the Mississippi Public
39 Records Act of 1983.

40 (5) This section shall not apply to any charitable
41 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
42 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
43 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
44 by the commission.

45 SECTION 2. Section 97-33-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
46 amended as follows:

47 97-33-55. (1) Any charitable organization desiring to
48 conduct bingo games must obtain a license to do so from the
49 Mississippi Gaming Commission.

50 (2) Each applicant for such a license shall file with the
51 commission a written application therefor in a form prescribed by
52 the commission on which shall be stated:

53 (a) The name and address of the applicant, together
54 with sufficient facts relating to its incorporation and
55 organization to enable the commission to determine whether or not
56 the applicant is a bona fide organization;

57 (b) The names and addresses of its officers;

58 (c) The place or places where, and the date or dates
59 and the time or times when, bingo games are intended to be
60 conducted by the applicant, under the license applied for;

61 (d) The items of expense intended to be incurred or
62 paid in connection with the holding, operating and conducting of
63 bingo games and the names and addresses of the persons to whom,
64 and the purposes for which, they are to be paid;

65 (e) The specific purposes to which the entire net
66 proceeds of the bingo games are to be devoted and in what manner;

67 (f) That, except as otherwise provided in Section
68 97-33-69, no commission, salary, compensation, reward or

69 recompense will be paid to any person for holding, operating or
70 conducting bingo games;

71 (g) A description of all prizes to be offered and given
72 in all bingo games to be held, operated and conducted under such
73 license; and

74 (h) Such other information as shall be prescribed by
75 the commission by its rules and regulations.

76 (3) In each application there shall be designated an active
77 member or members of the organization under whom the bingo games
78 are to be held, operated and conducted. The application shall
79 include a statement executed by the applicant and by the member or
80 members so designated, that he or they will be responsible for the
81 holding, operation and conduct of the bingo games in accordance
82 with the terms of the license and the provisions of the
83 commission's rules and regulations governing bingo games and of
84 Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, if such license is granted.

85 (4) An original application shall be accompanied by a fee of
86 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). Such application fee shall be refunded by
87 the commission to an organization deemed to be an exempt
88 organization pursuant to Section 97-33-107.

89 (5) This section shall not apply to any charitable
90 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
91 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
92 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
93 by the commission.

94 SECTION 3. Section 97-33-65, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
95 amended as follows:

96 97-33-65. The commission shall control all bingo games held,
97 operated or conducted by a licensee to assure that they are fairly
98 held, operated and conducted in accordance with the provisions of
99 the license, the commission's rules and regulations, and the
100 provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203. The commission
101 may suspend or revoke any license for violation of any such rule

102 and regulation or provision. Its officers and agents may enter
103 and inspect any premises where any bingo game is being held,
104 operated and conducted or is intended to be held, operated and
105 conducted, or where any equipment is being used or intended to be
106 used in the conduct thereof. This section shall not apply to any
107 charitable organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that
108 has internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
109 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
110 by the commission.

111 SECTION 4. Section 97-33-67, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
112 amended as follows:

113 97-33-67. (1) (a) No licensee shall hold, operate or
114 conduct any bingo game more often than for two (2) sessions within
115 one (1) day and more often than eight (8) sessions in any one (1)
116 week. Any licensee who holds no more than one (1) session per
117 week shall be entitled to conduct one (1) six-hour session per
118 week. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph,
119 pull-tabs, video pull-tabs or video bingo games may be played for
120 up to eighty (80) hours per week.

121 (b) No licensee shall hold, operate or conduct any
122 bingo game in more than one (1) physical location. Any bingo
123 operation for which a license has been issued by the Gaming
124 Commission on or after April 1, 1995, and which is located within
125 one thousand five hundred (1,500) feet of a school or public
126 library, shall not conduct bingo sessions during the hours of the
127 school day or during library hours.

128 (2) The total amount of prizes which may be awarded in any
129 one (1) session by a licensee shall not exceed Seven Thousand Five
130 Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) in cash or other thing or things of
131 value, except as otherwise provided in Section 97-33-59 and except
132 that the total amount of prizes which may be awarded in any one
133 (1) session shall not exceed Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) if
134 only one (1) session is held in any one (1) week. The Seven

135 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) and the Eight Thousand
136 Dollars (\$8,000.00) limits do not include payback of pull-tabs or
137 electronic representations. The commission shall establish by
138 rule the method of calculating the value of anything offered as a
139 prize.

140 (3) Each licensee shall designate a supervisor and a
141 sufficient number of alternate supervisors to be in charge of and
142 primarily responsible for each session of a bingo game. Such
143 individual shall be familiar with the provisions of Sections
144 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 and the rules and regulations of the
145 commission. Such individual, or alternate who shall be designated
146 as the bingo supervisor, shall supervise all activities of such
147 session and be responsible for the conduct of all games of such
148 session. The supervisor shall be present at all times on the
149 premises during the session.

150 (4) No licensee shall purchase or otherwise obtain any
151 gaming supplies or equipment from any distributor, operator or
152 manufacturer until it has first determined that the individual
153 selling or otherwise offering such supplies or equipment has a
154 valid license issued by the commission.

155 (5) No licensee shall allow any person under eighteen (18)
156 years of age to assist in the holding, operation or conduct of any
157 bingo game. No licensee shall allow any person under eighteen
158 (18) years of age to play a bingo game unless accompanied by his
159 or her parent or legal guardian, except that a licensee may
160 prohibit all persons under eighteen (18) years from entering the
161 licensed premises by posting a written notice to that effect on
162 the premises.

163
164 (6) This section shall not apply to any charitable
165 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
166 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
167 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation

168 by the commission.

169 SECTION 5. Section 97-33-69, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
170 amended as follows:

171 97-33-69. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection
172 (3) of this section, no person shall hold, operate, conduct or
173 assist in holding, operating or conducting, any bingo game under
174 any license issued pursuant to Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-81,
175 except designated supervisors or alternate supervisors designated
176 as provided for in Section 97-33-67(3).

177 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this
178 section and as may be otherwise provided pursuant to subsection
179 (10) of this section, no commission, salary, compensation, reward
180 or recompense, including but not limited to granting or use of
181 bingo cards without charge or at a reduced charge, shall be paid
182 or given directly or indirectly to the bingo supervisor or
183 alternate supervisor or any person related to such supervisor or
184 alternate supervisor by blood, marriage or business relationship,
185 for the holding, operating or conducting any licensed game or
186 games of chance.

187 (3) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
188 subsection (10) of this section, any licensee may pay as
189 compensation for all persons involved in the holding, operating or
190 conducting of any licensed game or games of chance, an amount not
191 to exceed Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) per session. Persons who
192 may be compensated from the Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) per
193 session amount may include the bingo supervisor or alternate
194 supervisor, callers, runners and cashiers. Neither the bingo
195 supervisor nor any alternate supervisor, or any person related to
196 such supervisor by blood, marriage or business relationship, while
197 being compensated as the bingo supervisor, shall receive any other
198 compensation, directly or indirectly, from the licensee. No
199 employee receiving compensation for the holding, operating or
200 conducting or assisting in the holding, operating or conducting of

201 a bingo game shall receive compensation for more than one (1) job
202 function.

203 (4) (a) Any corporation, person or entity operating
204 bingo games, under contract, for the benefit of organizations as
205 prescribed in subsection (3) of this section shall be restricted
206 to operating such games for a limit of one (1) such organization
207 authorized to pay employees up to a maximum of Four Hundred
208 Dollars (\$400.00) per session. Such corporation, person or entity
209 shall only be authorized to conduct such sessions at one (1)
210 physical location or building.

211 (b) Any corporation, person or entity operating bingo
212 games, under contract, for the benefit of organizations as
213 prescribed in subsection (3) of this section shall have a written
214 contract with the organization and shall be subject to any rules
215 and regulations promulgated by the commission for the purpose of
216 investigating or regulating contracting agents.

217 (5) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
218 subsection (10) of this section, no manufacturer, operator,
219 distributor, commercial lessor, or his agents or employees, who
220 directly or indirectly leases premises, sells, leases, otherwise
221 distributes gaming supplies or equipment, or furnishes any
222 commodities or services, in relation to the conducting of any
223 bingo game pursuant to Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 shall
224 take part in the holding, operation or conducting of a bingo game.

225 However, nothing in this section shall prohibit the owner of a
226 premises from having a representative present to protect his
227 interests in the premises.

228 (6) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
229 subsection (10) of this section, no bingo game shall be conducted
230 with any supplies or equipment except such as shall be owned by
231 the licensee, provided without payment of any compensation by the
232 licensee or purchased from a licensed manufacturer or distributor
233 of such supplies or equipment.

234 (7) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
235 subsection (10) of this section, no item of expense shall be
236 incurred or paid in connection with the holding, operating or
237 conducting of any bingo game by a licensee, except:

238 (a) The actual and reasonable costs of purchasing or
239 leasing necessary supplies, equipment and materials to be used
240 exclusively in the holding, operating or conducting of the bingo
241 game; and

242 (b) The actual and reasonable costs incurred in
243 obtaining and performing necessary bookkeeping, security and
244 janitorial services for the holding, operating or conducting of
245 the bingo game. The reasonableness of the amounts of, and the
246 necessity for, an expense authorized by this subsection shall be
247 determined by the commission.

248 (8) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
249 subsection (10) of this section, no licensee shall pay any
250 consulting fees to any person for any service performed in
251 relation to the conducting of any charitable game of chance or
252 concession fees to any person who provides refreshments to the
253 participants in any such games.

254 (9) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant to
255 subsection (10) of this section, no lease providing for a rental
256 arrangement for premises or equipment shall provide for payment in
257 excess of the reasonable market rental rate for such premises or
258 equipment, and in no case shall any payment be based on a
259 percentage of gross receipts or profits derived from a bingo game.

260 Whether a market rental rate is reasonable shall be determined by
261 the commission.

262 (10) Administrative exceptions to the provisions of this
263 section with regard to organizations which have demonstrated to
264 the Mississippi Gaming Commission a practice of legitimate
265 operation of such games, may be made by the Mississippi Gaming
266 Commission pursuant to its rules and regulations, as duly adopted

267 and promulgated by the commission; provided that such an
268 administrative exception shall be no more restrictive than the
269 provision of law to which it is an exception.

270 (11) This section shall not apply to any charitable
271 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
272 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
273 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
274 by the commission.

275 SECTION 6. Section 97-33-71, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
276 amended as follows:

277 97-33-71. (1) Except as may be otherwise provided pursuant
278 to Section 97-33-107(k), the organization which held, operated or
279 conducted the bingo game, and its bingo supervisor or supervisors
280 who were in charge thereof, shall furnish to the commission the
281 following information not less than quarterly:

282 (a) A verified statement showing the amount of the
283 gross receipts derived from each bingo game, which shall include
284 receipts from the sale of shares, tickets or rights in any manner
285 connected with participation in said game;

286 (b) Each item of expense incurred or paid, and each
287 item of expenditure made or to be made;

288 (c) The name and address of each person to whom each
289 such item has been paid or is to be paid, with a detailed
290 description of the merchandise purchased or the service rendered
291 therefor;

292 (d) The net profit derived from each such bingo game
293 and the uses to which such net profit has been or is to be
294 applied;

295 (e) A list of prizes offered or given, with the
296 respective values thereof;

297 (f) The number of participants in each game.

298 (2) Each licensee shall maintain and keep such books and
299 records as may be necessary to substantiate the particulars of

300 each such report.

301 (3) All licensees shall maintain records and submit reports
302 as provided by rules of the commission. Such rules may require
303 that all income of a licensee derived from charitable bingo games
304 be recorded to the extent necessary to disclose gross and net
305 income.

306 (4) This section shall not apply to any charitable
307 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
308 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
309 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
310 by the commission.

311 SECTION 7. Section 97-33-73, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
312 amended as follows:

313 97-33-73. (1) The Mississippi Gaming Commission shall have
314 power to examine or to cause to be examined the books and records
315 of any organization to which such license is issued so far as they
316 may relate to any transactions connected with the holding and
317 conducting of bingo and to examine any manager, officer, director,
318 agent, member or employee thereof under oath in relation to the
319 conduct of any such game, but any information so received shall
320 not be disclosed except so far as may be necessary for the purpose
321 of carrying out the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through
322 97-33-203.

323 (2) The State Tax Commission shall have the power to examine
324 or to cause to be examined the books and records of any
325 organization to which a license is issued for the purpose of
326 determining compliance with the Charitable Bingo Law and any other
327 laws and regulations and to conduct in-depth audits and
328 investigation of the licensee.

329 (3) This section shall not apply to any charitable
330 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
331 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
332 games.

333 SECTION 8. Section 97-33-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
334 amended as follows:

335 97-33-75. (1) Any person, association or corporation
336 violating any provision of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 or
337 any rule or regulation of the commission shall be subject to a
338 fine imposed by the commission and to suspension or revocation of
339 its license.

340 (2) Any person who commits any of the following acts, upon
341 conviction, shall be fined not more than Five Thousand Dollars
342 (\$5,000.00) or imprisoned for one (1) year, or both:

343 (a) Making any false statement in any application for a
344 license under Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, or in any
345 official report to the commission;

346 (b) Holding, operating or conducting any bingo game
347 without a license;

348 (c) Knowingly falsifying or making any false entry in
349 any books or records, with respect to any transaction connected
350 with the holding, operating or conducting of any bingo game;

351 (d) Refusing to allow the commission access to any
352 premises where a game of chance is being conducted or to any book,
353 record or document relating to such conduct;

354 (e) Intentionally causing, aiding, abetting or
355 conspiring with another to cause any person to violate any
356 provision of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203;

357 (f) Possessing, displaying, selling or otherwise
358 furnishing to any person any pull-tabs, except as provided for in
359 Section 97-33-77.

360 (3) Any person who violates any other provision of Sections
361 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 that is not listed in this section may
362 be imprisoned for not more than six (6) months or fined not more
363 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both.

364 (4) Any conviction of any person pursuant to subsections (2)
365 and (3) of this section shall constitute cause for revocation of

366 the license of such person or the organization with which such
367 person is affiliated.

368 (5) This section shall not apply to any charitable
369 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
370 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
371 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
372 by the commission.

373 SECTION 9. Section 97-33-77, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
374 amended as follows:

375 97-33-77. (1) No organization, distributor, manufacturer,
376 or any representative thereof, either with knowledge or in
377 circumstances whereunder he reasonably should have known, shall
378 possess, display, put out for play, sell or otherwise furnish to
379 any person any pull-tabs:

380 (a) In which the winning pull-tabs have not been
381 completely and randomly distributed and mixed among all other
382 pull-tabs in the deal;

383 (b) In which the location or approximate location of
384 any of the winning pull-tabs can be determined in advance of
385 opening the pull-tabs in any manner or by any device, including
386 but not limited to any pattern in the manufacture, assembly, or
387 packaging of pull-tabs by the manufacturer, by any markings on the
388 pull-tabs or container, or by the hue of a light; or

389 (c) Which does not conform in any respect to these
390 requirements as to manufacturer, assembly or packaging.

391 (2) A distributor shall not purchase or be furnished any
392 pull-tabs from a manufacturer of pull-tabs unless all of the
393 following conditions are met:

394 (a) The manufacturer's label or trademark has been
395 registered with the Mississippi Gaming Commission.

396 (b) Each individual pull-tab manufactured has
397 conspicuously set forth on it the name of the manufacturer or a
398 label or trademark which identifies its manufacturer.

399 (c) The pull-tab is of a type approved by the
400 commission for use in Mississippi.

401 (3) This section shall not apply to any charitable
402 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
403 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
404 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
405 by the commission.

406 SECTION 10. Section 97-33-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
407 amended as follows:

408 97-33-79. (1) No person or other entity shall fabricate,
409 concoct or manufacture any supplies or equipment for use in the
410 conducting of any bingo game authorized under Sections 97-33-51
411 through 97-33-203, including but not limited to bingo equipment,
412 pull-tabs, or electronic representations, within this state or for
413 use within this state without having obtained a manufacturer's
414 license from the commission.

415 (2) No person or other entity shall sell, offer for sale, or
416 otherwise furnish any other person any supplies or equipment of
417 use in the conduct of any bingo game authorized under Sections
418 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, including but not limited to bingo
419 equipment and pull-tabs without having obtained a distributor's or
420 operator's license from the commission.

421 (3) No person licensed as a manufacturer, distributor or
422 operator shall sell or otherwise make available any such gaming
423 supplies or equipment to any individual unless he has first
424 determined that the individual is a licensed distributor or is
425 acting as an agent of an organization which has a valid license
426 issued by the commission.

427 (4) No manufacturer, distributor or operator of gaming
428 supplies or equipment shall directly or indirectly give gifts,
429 trips, prizes, premiums or other such gratuities to any charitable
430 gaming organization, its employees, or commercial lessors.

431 (5) Each manufacturer, distributor or operator of gaming

432 supplies or equipment shall maintain records and submit reports as
433 required by rules of the commission. The rules may require
434 maintenance of purchase and sale invoices of all gaming supplies
435 and equipment manufactured or distributed, whether by sale, lease,
436 rental, loan or donation, to any charitable gaming organization.

437 (6) This section shall not apply to any charitable
438 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
439 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
440 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
441 by the commission.

442 SECTION 11. Section 97-33-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
443 amended as follows:

444 97-33-81. (1) No organization which conducts charitable
445 bingo games shall be a manufacturer, distributor or operator of
446 supplies or equipment for such games.

447 (2) No officer, director or manager of an organization which
448 conducts charitable bingo games shall:

449 (a) Have a direct or indirect financial interest in any
450 entity which manufactures or distributes supplies or equipment for
451 charitable bingo games;

452 (b) Serve as an officer, director, shareholder,
453 proprietor or employee of an entity which manufactures or
454 distributes supplies or equipment for charitable bingo games; or

455 (c) Serve as an officer, director, shareholder,
456 proprietor or employee of a commercial lessor who leases
457 buildings, structures or premises to organizations licensed under
458 the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203.

459 (3) No entity which manufactures or distributes supplies or
460 equipment for charitable bingo games of chance; no officer,
461 director, shareholder, proprietor or employee of such entity; and
462 no person having a direct or indirect financial interest in such
463 an entity shall lease premises, directly or indirectly, to an
464 organization for purposes of conducting charitable bingo games of

465 chance.

466 (4) No entity or person described in subsections (1), (2) or
467 (3) of this section shall serve as a commercial lessor.

468 (5) This section shall not apply to any charitable
469 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
470 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
471 games.

472 SECTION 12. Section 97-33-107, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
473 amended as follows:

474 97-33-107. In connection with its regulation of charitable
475 bingo games, the commission shall have the following functions,
476 duties and responsibilities:

477 (a) To issue and renew annual state licenses required
478 by law for organizations conducting bingo games and for
479 manufacturers, distributors or operators of supplies or equipment
480 for such games, and for commercial lessors of premises on which
481 such games are conducted;

482 (b) To assess and collect fees not to exceed five
483 percent (5%) of the net proceeds of pull-tabs, which fees shall be
484 limited to the amounts necessary to administer the Charitable
485 Bingo Law;

486 (c) To assess and collect fees equal to one percent
487 (1%) of the gross proceeds of each bingo session conducted by a
488 Class "A" charitable organization and equal to one-half (1/2) of
489 one percent (1%) of the gross proceeds of each bingo session
490 conducted by a Class "B" or a Class "C" charitable organization;
491 provided, however, that the fees assessed and collected under this
492 subsection (c) shall not apply to pull-tabs as described in
493 subsection (b) above, or to electronic bingo machines, or to
494 electronic pull-tab machines; and provided, that the fees shall
495 not be collected in any bingo session held by a religious
496 organization which has been in existence for ten (10) years or
497 longer, held on the premises owned by the religious organization,

498 and held without any person being compensated for operating the
499 game, and until the gross proceeds of bingo games conducted by
500 such organization exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)
501 during the calendar year;

502 (d) To deny applications for licensure or license
503 renewal and to issue orders for suspension or revocation of
504 licenses issued pursuant to Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203;

505 (e) To monitor licensees to ensure compliance with all
506 provisions of law and regulations relative to charitable bingo
507 games through routine scheduled and unscheduled inspections,
508 investigations and audits;

509 (f) To enforce all provisions of law and regulations
510 relative to charitable bingo games and to assist local law
511 enforcement agencies in these enforcement responsibilities and
512 bingo enforcement agents shall have the powers of a peace officer;

513 (g) To establish and assess penalties for violations of
514 regulations relative to charitable bingo games;

515 (h) To familiarize the members of organizations which
516 conduct charitable bingo games of chance, with provisions of the
517 Charitable Bingo Law and other applicable laws and regulations;

518 (i) To adopt rules and regulations to provide for the
519 sale or transfer of surplus supplies or equipment from one
520 licensed organization to another and such other rules and
521 regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes and
522 functions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, including the
523 adoption of rules and regulations pursuant to Section 97-33-69(10)
524 which may provide for differing requirements, with regard to the
525 number of participants, sessions, amount of prizes offered,
526 proceeds received or other factors which affect the regulatory and
527 administrative burdens on organizations operating charitable bingo
528 games, for a certain class of organizations, provided that such
529 rules and regulations shall be no more restrictive than the
530 provisions of law that govern such factors;

531 (j) To prescribe rules and regulations creating a class
532 of organizations that are exempt from the purchase of reprinted
533 tickets as provided for in paragraph (c) of this section based on
534 the number of participants or the amount of prizes offered or
535 other factors which affect the regulatory and administrative
536 burdens on the organizations imposed by the commission; and

537 (k) To establish the classes described in this
538 paragraph of charitable organizations that are licensed to conduct
539 bingo games and to prescribe rules and regulations to provide for
540 differing reporting requirements imposed upon each different
541 class; provided that such rules and regulations shall be no more
542 restrictive than the provisions of law that relate to reporting
543 requirements. Such classes of organizations are as follows:

544 (i) Class "A" shall be composed of licensed
545 charitable organizations which conduct bingo games in which the
546 prizes awarded total an aggregate amount in excess of Five
547 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per session;

548 (ii) Class "B" shall be composed of licensed
549 charitable organizations which conduct bingo games in which the
550 prizes awarded total an aggregate amount of not less than Two
551 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) and not more than Five
552 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00);

553 (iii) Class "C" shall be composed of licensed
554 charitable organizations which conduct bingo games in which the
555 prizes awarded total an aggregate amount of less than Two Thousand
556 Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00).

557 This section shall not apply to any charitable organization
558 described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has internal rules,
559 regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo games.

560 SECTION 13. Section 97-33-109, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
561 amended as follows:

562 97-33-109. (1) The commission shall monitor the conduct or
563 business of licensees, both on a routine scheduled and an

564 unscheduled basis, to the extent necessary to ensure compliance
565 with the provisions of charitable bingo game laws and regulations
566 of the state.

567 (2) In carrying out its enforcement responsibilities, the
568 commission may:

569 (a) Inspect and examine all premises in which
570 charitable bingo games are conducted or supplies or equipment for
571 such games are manufactured and distributed;

572 (b) Inspect all such supplies and equipment in, upon or
573 about such premises;

574 (c) Seize and remove from such premises and impound
575 such supplies and equipment for the purpose of examination and
576 inspection pursuant to an appropriate court order;

577 (d) Demand access to and audit and inspect books and
578 records of licensees for the purpose of determining compliance
579 with laws and regulations relative to charitable bingo games;

580 (e) Conduct in-depth audits and investigations; and

581 (f) Mandate that internal controls be executed in
582 accordance with the provisions of the Charitable Bingo Law and
583 other applicable laws and regulations.

584 (3) The commission shall require licensees to maintain
585 records and submit reports.

586 (4) In addition to license revocation or suspension or any
587 criminal penalty imposed, the commission may assess a fine against
588 any person who violates any law or regulation relative to
589 charitable bingo games. Such a fine shall only be assessed after
590 notice and an opportunity for a hearing to be held.

591 (5) All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, officers
592 and institutions of the state, and all subdivisions thereof, shall
593 cooperate with the commission in carrying out its enforcement
594 responsibilities.

595 (6) The Attorney General shall be the attorney for the
596 commission in regard to its duties to regulate the Charitable

597 Bingo Law and he shall represent it in all legal proceedings and
598 shall prosecute any civil action for a violation of the provisions
599 of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 or the rules and
600 regulations of the commission.

601 (7) It is the duty of the sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and
602 police officers of this state to assist the commission in the
603 enforcement of the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through
604 97-33-203 and to arrest and complain against any person violating
605 the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203. It is the
606 duty of the district attorneys of this state to prosecute all
607 violations of the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through
608 97-33-203 if requested to do so by the commission.

609 (8) (a) Whenever any person who is a resident of the State
610 of Mississippi has reason to believe that a person or organization
611 is or has violated the provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through
612 97-33-203 and that proceedings would be in the public interest, he
613 may bring an action in the name of the state against such person
614 to restrain by temporary or permanent injunction such violation,
615 upon at least five (5) days' summons before the hearing of the
616 action. The action shall be brought in the chancery or county
617 court of the county in which such violation has occurred or, with
618 consent of the parties, may be brought in the chancery or county
619 court of the county in which the State Capitol is located. The
620 said courts are authorized to issue temporary or permanent
621 injunctions to restrain and prevent violations of Sections
622 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, and such injunctions shall be issued
623 without bond.

624 (b) Any person who violates the terms of an injunction
625 issued under this subsection shall forfeit and pay to the state a
626 civil penalty of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)
627 per violation which shall be payable to the General Fund of the
628 State of Mississippi. For the purposes of this subsection, the
629 chancery or county court issuing an injunction shall retain

630 jurisdiction, and the cause shall be continued, and in such cases
631 the person bringing the action may petition for recovery of civil
632 penalties.

633 (c) In any action brought under this subsection, if the
634 court finds that a person is willfully violating the provisions of
635 Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203, the person bringing the
636 action, upon petition to the court, may recover on behalf of the
637 state a civil penalty of not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars
638 (\$500.00) per violation which shall be payable to the General Fund
639 of the State of Mississippi.

640 (d) No penalty authorized by this subsection shall be
641 deemed to limit the court's powers to insure compliance with its
642 orders, decrees and judgments, or punish for the violations
643 thereof.

644 (e) For purposes of this subsection, a willful
645 violation occurs when the party committing the violation knew or
646 should have known that his conduct was a violation of the
647 provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203.

648 (9) This section shall not apply to any charitable
649 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
650 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
651 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
652 by the commission.

653 SECTION 14. Section 97-33-201, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
654 amended as follows:

655 97-33-201. (1) (a) Any organization or person seeking
656 licensure as a manufacturer, distributor or operator of bingo
657 gaming supplies or equipment, or as a commercial lessor, shall
658 submit an application to the commission on forms provided for such
659 purposes. Such application shall contain such information as may
660 be reasonably required by rules of the commission. The
661 application shall be accompanied by a fee as established by the
662 commission. For a commercial lessor's license or the renewal

663 thereof, the commission shall establish fees according to the
664 amount of annual gross revenue derived from the lease(s) of
665 premises by a licensee.

666 (b) The commission shall investigate all applications
667 for licensure and, in addition to the information required on the
668 application, may require the applicant to furnish such additional
669 information as it deems necessary.

670 (2) The commission shall not issue a license under this
671 section to:

672 (a) Any person who has been convicted of certain
673 related offenses as established by the commission or who presently
674 has such a charge pending in any state or federal court;

675 (b) Any person who has ever been convicted of a
676 gambling-related offense in any state or federal court;

677 (c) Any person who is or has ever been a professional
678 gambler;

679 (d) Any firm, organization or corporation in which any
680 person as described in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this
681 subsection is an officer or director, whether compensated or not,
682 or in which such person has a direct or indirect financial
683 interest;

684 (e) Any person, firm, organization, entity or
685 corporation which has a direct or indirect financial interest in a
686 licensed charity.

687 (3) The commission may deny an application for licensure,
688 refuse to renew a license, or suspend or revoke a license for any
689 reason consistent with the purposes of Sections 97-33-201 and
690 97-33-203 which it deems to be in the interest of the public.
691 However, policies regarding such denial, suspension, revocation or
692 refusal to renew shall be established by rule and regulation.

693 (4) Any significant change in the information submitted on
694 its application for licensure shall be filed by a licensee with
695 the commission within ten (10) days of the change. A significant

696 change shall include but not be limited to any change in the
697 officers, directors, managers, proprietors or persons having a
698 direct or indirect financial interest in any licensed organization
699 or entity.

700 (5) This section shall not apply to any charitable
701 organization described in Section 97-33-53(b)(i)1 that has
702 internal rules, regulations or guidelines for conducting bingo
703 games; and such an organization shall not be subject to regulation
704 by the commission.

705 SECTION 15. Section 97-33-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
706 amended as follows:

707 97-33-51. (1) The provisions of Sections 97-33-1 through
708 97-33-49 shall not apply to any raffle wherein a ticket is sold
709 and a prize is offered when such raffle is being held by and for
710 the benefit of any nonprofit civic, educational, wildlife
711 conservation or religious organization with all proceeds going to
712 said organization.

713 (2) The provisions of Sections 97-33-1 through 97-33-49
714 shall not apply to any bingo game wherein a prize is offered when
715 such bingo game is being held in accordance with the provisions of
716 the Charitable Bingo Law. Additionally, Sections 97-33-1 through
717 97-33-49 shall not apply to any bingo game wherein a prize is
718 offered when such bingo game is being held by a charitable
719 organization that is exempt from the Charitable Bingo Law pursuant
720 to House Bill No. _____, 1999 Regular Session.

721 (3) A bingo game or a raffle held pursuant to the provisions
722 of the Charitable Bingo Law shall not be considered a game or
723 gambling game for the purposes of Section 75-76-1 et seq.
724 Additionally, a bingo game or raffle held by a charitable
725 organization that is exempt from the Charitable Bingo Law under
726 House Bill No. _____, 1999 Regular Session, shall not be considered
727 a game or gambling game for the purposes of Section 75-76-1 et
728 seq.

729 SECTION 16. Section 97-33-50, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
730 brought forward as follows:

731 97-33-50. The provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through
732 97-33-81, 97-33-101 through 97-33-109, 97-33-201 and 97-33-203,
733 Mississippi Code of 1972, may be cited as the "Charitable Bingo
734 Law."

735 SECTION 17. Section 97-33-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
736 brought forward as follows:

737 97-33-53. As used in Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203,
738 the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed
739 herein unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

740 (a) "Bingo" means a game of chance in which a right to
741 participate is sold to a player and prizes are awarded, that is:

742 (i) Played with a card, sheet, or an electronic
743 representation thereof, bearing numbers or symbols;

744 (ii) Played with the participant covering, marking
745 or revealing the numbers or symbols, as objects similarly numbered
746 or designated are drawn from a receptacle and orally called; in
747 the case of electronic representations, the requisite covering,
748 marking or revealing may be accomplished electronically to match
749 objects similarly numbered or designated and stored in memory in
750 advance as winners, or which are generated randomly by an
751 electronic process;

752 (iii) Won by the player who first covers, marks or
753 reveals a previously designated arrangement of numbers or symbols;

754 and

755 (iv) Played on the premises of a licensed
756 organization and during the organization's regular hours of
757 conducting bingo games.

758 The term "bingo" includes pull-tabs made available as a
759 companion game to bingo and played on the premises. The term
760 "bingo" does not include any game which is played via television,
761 telephone, satellite dish or any other telecommunications

762 transmission or receiving device.

763 Any electronic device used to produce an electronic
764 representation must maintain an inventory recorded in computed
765 memory, not on cartridge memory, of the number of winners and
766 losers. It must also be equipped with tamper-proof electric
767 meters as a backup to the computer memory. It may not dispense
768 cash or coins. Paybacks will be dispensed by printed ticket only.
769 The printer shall maintain duplicate records of all transactions.
770 All such electronic devices shall be approved by the Mississippi
771 Gaming Commission.

772 (b) "Charitable organization" means:

773 (i) Any nonprofit organization domiciled in this
774 state that is tax exempt under Section 501(c) or (d) of the United
775 States Internal Revenue Code and which has on file with the
776 Mississippi Gaming Commission either a tax exemption letter issued
777 by the United States Internal Revenue Service, or a certified copy
778 of its application for such tax exempt status if the commission
779 determines that the organization is likely to be granted the tax
780 exempt status, and is:

781 1. Any chapter or post domiciled in this
782 state of a nationally chartered organization whose membership is
783 composed of former members of the military forces of the United
784 States of America or whose membership is composed of members of
785 the Merchant Marine Veterans Association; or

786 2. Any nonprofit civic, educational, wildlife
787 conservation organization or religious organization domiciled in
788 this state.

789 If an organization which has on file with the commission a
790 certified copy of its application for a tax exemption under
791 Section 501(c) or (d) of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code is not
792 granted the exemption within twelve (12) months from the date of
793 such application, the organization's license shall be subject to
794 revocation pursuant to Section 97-33-61.

795 (ii) Any senior citizen recreation club, which is
796 defined as an organization sanctioned by the local council on
797 aging and composed of members aged sixty (60) years or older, the
798 sole function of which is to provide amusement and diversion for
799 its members.

800 (c) "Commission" means the Mississippi Gaming
801 Commission.

802 (d) "Distributor" means any person or other entity who
803 sells, offers for sale or otherwise furnishes to any person,
804 gaming supplies or equipment for use in the conducting of a bingo
805 game authorized by Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203.

806 (e) "Manufacturer" means any person or other entity who
807 manufactures for sale, offers for sale, or otherwise furnishes,
808 any gaming supplies or equipment for use in the conducting of a
809 bingo game authorized by Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203.

810 (f) "Commercial lessor" means any person or other
811 entity, other than a bona fide nonprofit organization licensed to
812 conduct charitable bingo games, who leases any building, structure
813 or premises to organizations licensed under the provisions of
814 Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203.

815 (g) "Operator" means a person or other entity who
816 supplies the charity an electronic facsimile pull-tab device or
817 labor saving device as described in Section 97-33-53. This person
818 or entity may not be engaged in any other form of bingo operations
819 such as a distributor, manufacturer, charity or commercial lessor.

820 (h) "Pull-tabs" means single or banded tickets or cards
821 each with its face covered to conceal one or more numbers or
822 symbols, where one or more cards or tickets in each set have been
823 designed in advance as winners. "Pull-tabs" shall also mean any
824 device for dispensing pull-tabs.

825 (i) "Session" means any five-hour time period within
826 one (1) day or six-hour time period within one (1) week.

827 (j) "Day" means the whole or any part of the time

828 period of twenty-four (24) hours from midnight to midnight.

829 (k) "Week" means the seven-day period from 12:01 a.m.
830 on Monday until midnight the following Sunday.

831 SECTION 18. Section 97-33-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
832 brought forward as follows:

833 97-33-57. (1) The commission shall investigate the
834 qualifications of each applicant and the merits of the
835 application, with due expedition after the filing of the
836 application, and shall make the following determinations:

837 (a) That the applicant is duly qualified to hold,
838 operate and conduct bingo games under the provisions of Sections
839 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 and the rules and regulations of the
840 commission governing same.

841 (b) That the member or members of the organization
842 designated in the application to hold, operate, conduct, or assist
843 in holding, operating, or conducting, the bingo games are bona
844 fide active members of the organization and of good moral
845 character, who have never been convicted of certain offenses as
846 designated by the commission.

847 (c) That bingo games are to be held, operated and
848 conducted in accordance with the provisions of Sections 97-33-51
849 through 97-33-203 and in accordance with the rules and regulations
850 of the commission governing same, and that the proceeds thereof
851 are to be disposed of as provided by Sections 97-33-51 through
852 97-33-203.

853 (2) If the commission is satisfied that no commission,
854 salary, compensation, reward or recompense whatever, except as
855 otherwise provided in Section 97-33-69, will be paid or given to
856 any person holding, operating or conducting any bingo game, it may
857 issue a license to the applicant for the holding, operating and
858 conducting of bingo games.

859 (3) No license for holding, operating or conducting bingo
860 games that is issued under Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203

861 shall be effective for more than one (1) calendar year.

862 (4) The commission shall not issue a license to:

863 (a) Any person who has been convicted of certain
864 related offenses as established by the commission or who presently
865 has such a charge pending in any state or federal court;

866 (b) Any person who has ever been convicted of a
867 gambling-related offense in any state or federal court;

868 (c) Any person who is or has ever been a professional
869 gambler;

870 (d) Any firm, organization or corporation in which any
871 person as described in paragraphs (a) through (c) is an officer or
872 director, whether compensated or not, or in which such person has
873 a direct or indirect financial interest;

874 (e) The commission may deny an application for
875 licensure, refuse to renew a license, or suspend or revoke a
876 license for any reason consistent with the purposes of Sections
877 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 which it deems to be in the interest of
878 the public. However, policies regarding such denial, suspension,
879 revocation or refusal to renew shall be established by rule and
880 regulation. If the commission fails to act upon the license
881 application within sixty (60) days of the date of filing of the
882 application by the charitable organization, such application shall
883 be deemed accepted.

884 (5) Any significant change in the information submitted on
885 its application for licensure shall be filed by a licensee with
886 the commission within ten (10) days of the change. A significant
887 change shall include but not be limited to any change in the
888 officers, directors, managers, proprietors or persons having a
889 direct or indirect financial interest in any licensed organization
890 or entity.

891 SECTION 19. Section 97-33-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
892 brought forward as follows:

893 97-33-59. (1) The commission may issue a special license

894 for the conducting of limited fund-raising bingo games for the
895 benefit of a person, family or group of persons who, because of
896 circumstances which cause a financial crisis of an emergency
897 nature, are in need of immediate fund-raising relief. Bingo games
898 conducted under this section shall consist of no more than two (2)
899 bingo sessions annually by the same person, family or group of
900 persons, at which the total amount of prizes which may be awarded
901 on any calendar day under such a license shall not exceed Fifteen
902 Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) in cash or other thing or things of
903 value. Except as otherwise provided in this section or as may be
904 otherwise provided by Section 97-33-69(10) or 97-33-107(k), all
905 other provisions of Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 shall
906 apply to the issuance of such special licenses.

907 (2) The commission shall not authorize any organization to
908 conduct limited bingo games as described in subsection (1) as
909 provided herein unless that organization has first obtained a
910 special charitable limited license from the commission.

911 (3) All proceeds derived from bingo games conducted under a
912 special charitable limited license shall go to the specific need
913 for which the games are conducted, as outlined in the application
914 for such license.

915 (4) The fee for a special charitable limited license shall
916 be limited to the actual administrative costs of issuing it.

917 SECTION 20. Section 97-33-61, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
918 brought forward as follows:

919 97-33-61. No license shall be revoked by the commission
920 until after a hearing is held on due notice. The commission may
921 designate a hearing examiner to hear the case and render a
922 decision. A licensee aggrieved by the decision of the hearing
923 examiner may apply within fifteen (15) days after announcement of
924 the decision in writing to the commission for review of the
925 decision. Review is limited to the record of proceedings before
926 the hearing examiner. The commission may sustain or reverse the

927 hearing examiner's decision.

928 Any person aggrieved by the final decision of the commission
929 may obtain a judicial review thereof in the circuit court of the
930 county in which the bingo games are conducted. The judicial
931 review must be instituted by filing a petition within ten (10)
932 days after the decision is rendered.

933 SECTION 21. Section 97-33-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
934 brought forward as follows:

935 97-33-101. All fees and fines collected by the commission
936 pursuant to Sections 97-33-51 through 97-33-203 shall be deposited
937 into a special fund to be known as the "Charitable Bingo Fund,"
938 which is hereby created in the State Treasury. The monies in such
939 fund shall be used exclusively to support the activities of the
940 commission related to the regulation of the Charitable Bingo Law,
941 upon appropriation by the Legislature. Unexpended amounts
942 remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse
943 into the State General Fund, and any interest earned on amounts in
944 such special fund shall be deposited to the credit of the special
945 fund.

946 SECTION 22. Section 97-33-103, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
947 brought forward as follows:

948 97-33-103. (1) The commission shall annually prepare and
949 submit a comprehensive report on the scope and nature of
950 charitable bingo game activities in this state and impact of the
951 commission on such activities. The report shall be submitted to
952 the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of
953 Representatives, the Chairmen of the House and Senate Judiciary
954 Committees, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and
955 the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

956 (2) The commission shall furnish a copy of its rules and
957 regulations, including any amendments thereto as they are adopted,
958 pursuant to the Charitable Bingo Law, to the Chairman and Counsel
959 of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman and Counsel

960 of the Senate Finance Committee. Further, upon a written request
961 from any member of the Legislature, the commission shall furnish
962 such rules and regulations to the member, by return United States
963 mail.

964 SECTION 23. Section 97-33-105, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
965 brought forward as follows:

966 97-33-105. Neither the director nor any employee of the
967 commission shall be an officer, director or manager of any
968 organization licensed by the state to conduct charitable bingo
969 games or have a direct or indirect financial interest in any
970 entity manufacturing or distributing supplies or equipment used in
971 such games.

972 SECTION 24. Section 97-33-203, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
973 brought forward as follows:

974 97-33-203. (1) Any person leasing any premises for the
975 conducting of charitable gaming activities shall obtain a
976 commercial lessor's license for each premises to be licensed. A
977 commercial lessor's license shall authorize a person to lease
978 specific premises to licensees for the conducting of charitable
979 gaming activities. The commission, upon application and
980 compliance with other provisions for licensure contained in
981 Section 97-33-201 shall issue a commercial lessor's license to
982 qualified persons.

983 (2) No lease of any premises by a commercial lessor to any
984 charitable organization for a charitable bingo game shall provide
985 for payment in excess of the reasonable market rental rate for
986 such premises as determined by the average of two (2) independent
987 appraisals for the premises. Such appraisals shall be conducted
988 by appraisers selected by the applicant for a commercial lessor's
989 license from a list of state-certified appraisers compiled and
990 maintained by the commission. The appraisals shall be submitted
991 by the commercial lessor as a part of the application for a
992 commercial lessor's license. The commission may require that a

993 third independent appraisal be conducted by a state-certified
994 appraiser, selected by the applicant from the list, regarding any
995 such property, which shall be used in arriving at the average
996 reasonable market rate. The commercial lessor shall pay the cost
997 of such third appraisal. No lease shall provide for rental for
998 less than a five-hour session. No more than two (2) sessions
999 shall be conducted within one (1) day and more often than eight
1000 (8) sessions in any one (1) week on the premises of a commercial
1001 lessor. Any licensee who holds no more than one (1) session per
1002 week shall be entitled to conduct one (1) six-hour session per
1003 week.

1004 (3) No commercial lessor shall require the payment of any
1005 other cost or fee from an organization licensed to hold, operate
1006 or conduct bingo games other than the rental amount provided for
1007 by the rental agreement or contract or charge admission fees to
1008 persons entering the premises to participate in the games.

1009 (4) No commercial lessor leasing premises for authorized
1010 charitable bingo game activities shall enter into any agreement
1011 with a distributor of gaming supplies for the use, purchase,
1012 promotion or sale of supplies to be used in such bingo games.

1013 SECTION 25. This act shall take effect and be in force from
1014 and after July 1, 1999.