

**SENATE, No. 2759**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator TROY SINGLETON**  
**District 7 (Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Adjusts municipal ballot question for amusement games for future elections.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT adjusting the municipal ballot question for amusement  
2 games and amending P.L.1959, c.109.

3

4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 17 of P.L.1959, c.109 (C.5:8-116) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 17. Upon a petition signed by qualified voters of any  
10 municipality equal in number to at least **[15%]** 15 percent of the  
11 total number of votes cast therein at the latest preceding general  
12 election for members of the General Assembly and filed with the  
13 clerk of the municipality at least 60 days before such election, the  
14 governing body of the municipality shall provide for the submission  
15 to the legal voters of the municipality at such general election, the  
16 question of whether this act shall become operative or cease to be  
17 operative in such municipality, as the case may be. If, upon such  
18 submission of the question, the majority of all the valid votes cast  
19 on the question shall be in favor of having this act inoperative in the  
20 municipality, then this act shall, 60 days thereafter, become  
21 inoperative in the municipality. The question shall be deemed to be  
22 a public question and shall be submitted to the voters as in the case  
23 of other public questions. The question shall be stated as follows:

24 Shall the act entitled "An act authorizing the  
25 conducting, operating and playing of certain amusement  
26 Yes. games, whether of chance or skill, or both, where the  
27 prizes or awards to be given shall be of merchandise  
28 only, of a **[retail]** value **[not in excess of \$15.00,]** to be  
29 determined by the Amusement Games Control  
30 Commissioner and

31 the charge for the privilege of playing shall **[not**  
32 **exceed \$0.25]** be determined by the commissioner;  
33 providing for the licensing, regulation  
34 and control by **[a]** the commissioner, of the conducting  
35 and

36 operating of such games; providing restrictions as to  
37 No. the places where such games may be conducted and  
38 operated; providing that certain playing for money  
39 or other valuable things is not authorized; providing  
40 for the operation and inoperation of the act in any  
41 municipality when so determined by referendum vote  
42 therein; and providing for the submission of this act  
43 to the legal voters of the State for their approval  
44 or rejection before the same shall become operative  
45 within this State," become .....

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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1 (insert operative or inoperative) in this municipality?  
2

3 In the blank space set forth in the above box, the word  
4 "operative" or "inoperative" shall be inserted in the question when  
5 it is submitted to the voters of the municipality according to  
6 whether this act became operative by reason of the vote on the  
7 question submitted to all the voters of the State as to whether this  
8 act should become operative. If a majority of the voters in the  
9 municipality who voted on the said general public question was in  
10 the affirmative and, thereby, under the provisions of this act,  
11 municipal licenses are authorized, then the word "inoperative"  
12 should be included in the above blank space, but if this act does not  
13 become operative in the municipality because a majority of the  
14 votes cast therein on the general public question was in the  
15 negative, then the word "operative" should be inserted in the  
16 above-mentioned blank space. If this act shall have become  
17 operative in any municipality by reason of a referendum vote  
18 therein, as herein provided, and a further referendum is authorized  
19 to determine the question of whether this act shall become  
20 inoperative notwithstanding such previous approval by the voters,  
21 then the word "inoperative" should be inserted in the above blank  
22 space.

23 (cf: P.L.1975, c.389, s.5)  
24

25 2. Section 19 of P.L.1959, c.109 (C.5:8-118) is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 19. There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at  
28 such election the following:

29 If you favor making the act entitled below operative within the  
30 State, and operative within this municipality, make a cross X, plus +  
31 or check / in the square opposite the word "Yes."

32 If you are opposed to making the act entitled below so operative,  
33 make a cross X, plus + or check / in the square opposite the word  
34 "No."

35 Shall the act entitled "An act authorizing the  
36 conducting, operating and playing of certain amusement  
37 Yes. games, whether of chance or skill, or both, where the  
38 prizes or awards to be given shall be of merchandise  
39 only, of a **【retail】** value **【not in excess of \$15.00】** to be  
40 determined by the Amusement Games Control  
41 Commissioner, and  
42 the charge for the privilege of playing shall **【not**  
43 **exceed \$0.25】** be determined by the commissioner;  
44 providing for the licensing, regulation  
45 and control by **【a】** the commissioner, of the conducting  
46 and  
47 operating of such games; providing restrictions as  
48 to the places where such games may be conducted and

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1 operated; providing that certain playing for money or  
2 No. other valuable things is not authorized; providing  
3 for the operation and inoperation of the act in any  
4 municipality when so determined by referendum vote  
5 therein; and providing for the submission of this act  
6 to the legal voters of the State for their approval  
7 or rejection before the same shall become operative  
8 within this State," become operative within this State?  
9

10 The date of the approval or passage of this act, as the case may  
11 be, shall be inserted in the appropriate place after the title.

12 In any election district in which voting machines are used the  
13 question shall be placed upon the official ballot to be used upon the  
14 voting machines with the foregoing instructions to the voters but  
15 with instructions to vote "Yes" or "No" by the use of such  
16 machines and without marking as aforesaid.

17 (cf: P.L.1959, c.109, s.19)

18

19 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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24 This bill adjusts the municipal ballot question for allowing  
25 games of amusement within a municipality to match the current title  
26 of the law as amended in P.L.1981, c.291.

27 The bill would only apply to future ballot questions and would  
28 not change the law of any municipality that had already adopted the  
29 "Amusement Games Licensing Law."