

SENATE, No. 3641

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Permits conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the types of raffle games permitted to be
2 conducted by licensed organizations in this State and
3 supplementing the “Raffles Licensing Law,” P.L.1954, c.5
4 (C.5:8-50 et seq.).

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6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

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9 1. a. The Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission
10 shall adopt regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure
11 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), authorizing licensees to
12 hold and conduct Queen of Hearts raffle games. The control
13 commission may specify any requirement applicable to the conduct
14 of Queen of Hearts raffle games that the control commission may
15 deem necessary in accordance with this section.

16 b. A “Queen of Hearts raffle” means a raffle game utilizing a
17 Queen of Hearts raffle board onto which 54 playing cards can be
18 placed facedown, side-by-side, and held securely by a locking,
19 transparent cover, which playing cards shall be thoroughly shuffled
20 and from which the participant holding the winning raffle ticket
21 drawn at random from a raffle ticket drum or receptacle shall be
22 entitled to “Search for the Queen of Hearts” by selecting one of the
23 facedown playing cards.

24 When the playing card selected is not the Queen of Hearts, the
25 card shall be placed out of play, and the holder of the winning raffle
26 ticket selecting that card shall be immediately awarded a cash prize
27 valued according to the schedule set forth in regulation by the
28 Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission. The raffle
29 drawings shall be conducted weekly until a person selects the
30 Queen of Hearts. When the playing card selected is the Queen of
31 Hearts, the holder of the winning raffle ticket selecting that card
32 shall be awarded 50 percent of the prize, with the remainder of the
33 prize retained by the licensee as proceeds from conducting the
34 raffle.

35 c. The licensee may use the net proceeds derived from the
36 conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games in any manner allowable
37 by law and in accordance with State regulations.

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39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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42 STATEMENT

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44 This bill permits raffle licensees to conduct of Queen of Hearts
45 raffle games.

46 Under current law, municipalities where voters have approved a
47 referendum to allow raffle games may license eligible organizations
48 to conduct these games. The Legalized Games of Chance Control

1 Commission in the Department of Law and Public Safety regulates
2 the conduct of these games.

3 Under Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2, subparagraph B of
4 the State Constitution, and under the Raffles Licensing Law,
5 eligible organizations may apply for a license to conduct raffles.
6 Bona fide organizations or associations of veterans; churches or
7 religious congregations and religious organizations; charitable,
8 educational, and fraternal organizations; civic and service clubs;
9 senior citizen associations and clubs; officially recognized
10 volunteer fire companies; and officially recognized volunteer first
11 aid or rescue squads are eligible to apply for a license.

12 This bill permits eligible organizations to conduct Queen of
13 Hearts raffle games. A “Queen of Hearts raffle” means a raffle
14 game utilizing a Queen of Hearts raffle board onto which 54
15 thoroughly shuffled playing cards are placed facedown, side-by-
16 side. Raffle tickets are placed into a ticket drum or other receptacle
17 and a winning ticket is drawn at random. The participant holding
18 the winning raffle ticket is entitled to “Search for the Queen of
19 Hearts” by selecting one of the facedown playing cards. When the
20 playing card selected is not the Queen of Hearts, the card is placed
21 out of play, and the person is awarded a cash prize valued according
22 to a certain schedule. The raffle drawings are conducted weekly
23 until a person selects the Queen of Hearts. When a person selects
24 the Queen of Hearts, that person will be awarded 50 percent of the
25 prize, and the remainder of the prize will be retained by the licensee
26 as proceeds from conducting the raffle.

27 The bill specifies that the licensee may use the net proceeds
28 derived from the conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games in any
29 manner allowable by law and in accordance with State regulations.
30 The bill directs the Legalized Games of Chance Control
31 Commission to adopt the necessary rules and regulations for the
32 conduct of Queen of Hearts raffle games.