

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 1422

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the use of electronic pull-tab minding devices or card-minding devices during a bingo occasion.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 2001.002, Occupations Code, is amended by inserting new subsections (10) and (11) and renumbering subsections in this section, and all subsection references in Chapter 2001 Occupations Code, accordingly:

(10) "Electronic Pull-Tab Bingo" means an electronic form of pull-tab bingo where a customer purchases an electronic ticket face, instead of a ticket made of paper or paper products, some of which have been designated in advance as prize winners, from a point of sale station. All electronic pull-tab ticket faces shall come from a finite deal of tickets.

(11) "Electronic Pull-Tab Minding Device" means an electronic device, including a card-minding device, if applicable, that is capable of displaying an electronic pull-tab bingo ticket face purchased by a patron.

SECTION 2. Section 2001.408, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Subject to the commission's rules, bingo may be played using a pull-tab bingo ticket or an electronic pull-tab bingo ticket.

SECTION 3. Section 2001.409, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) A person may not use a card-minding device:

2 (1) to generate [~~or determine~~] the random letters,  
3 numbers or other symbols used in playing the bingo card played with  
4 the device's assistance;

5 (2) as a receptacle for the deposit of tokens or money  
6 in payment for playing the bingo card played with the device's  
7 assistance; or

8 (3) as a dispenser for the payment of a bingo prize,  
9 including coins, paper currency or a thing of value for the bingo  
10 card played with the device's assistance.

11 (b) [~~Not more than 40 percent of the individuals attending a  
12 bingo occasion, based on the average of two previously submitted  
13 quarterly reports, may use electronic or mechanical card-minding  
14 devices. This subsection does not apply to pull-tab bingo.~~] A  
15 card-minding device may be used to:

16 (1) account for and track electronic credits either  
17 purchased by patrons at a point of sale station or won by patrons  
18 playing bingo or electronic pull-tabs; and

19 (2) exchange these electronic credits for electronic  
20 bingo card faces and electronic pull tab bingo tickets that may be  
21 played by patrons during a bingo occasion.

22 SECTION 4. A new Section 2001.421, Occupations Code, is  
23 added as follows:

24 (a) A person may not use an electronic pull-tab minding  
25 device:

26 (1) to generate the random letters, numbers, or other  
27 symbols used in playing bingo;

1           (2) to affect the chances of winning at bingo; or  
2           (3) as a dispenser for the payment of a bingo prize,  
3 including coins, paper currency, or a thing of value for the game  
4 played.

5           (b) All electronic pull-tab minding devices are subject to  
6 testing by the commission and shall be manufactured in accordance  
7 with specifications contained in rules adopted by the commission.

8           (c) All electronic pull-tab minding devices should be  
9 capable of being monitored by electronic on-line modem access and  
10 are subject to inspection by the commission at any time.

11           SECTION 5. A new Section 2001.423, Occupations Code, is  
12 added as follows:

13 The Texas Lottery Commission shall have broad authority to adopt  
14 rules administering the provisions of subsection 2001.409(b) and  
15 Section 2001.421.

16           SECTION 6. The Texas Lottery Commission shall adopt rules  
17 to administer this Act, not later than October 1, 2003, and may  
18 adopt the initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency  
19 rules.

20           SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.