

By: Landgraf

H.B. No. 4446

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to certain licensing and permitting requirements for game  
3 rooms; authorizing an occupational permit or license; authorizing a  
4 fee.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 234.134, Local Government Code, is  
7 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to  
8 read as follows:

9 (a) A county may require that an owner or operator of a game  
10 room obtain a license or permit or renew a license or permit on a  
11 periodic basis to own or operate a game room in the county. An  
12 application for a license or permit must be made in accordance with  
13 Section 234.1341 and with regulations adopted by the county.

14 (a-1) A county may require that a person employed by a game  
15 room, other than an owner or operator, obtain a license or permit or  
16 renew a license or permit on a periodic basis to be employed by a  
17 game room in the county. An application for a license or permit  
18 must be made in accordance with Section 234.1342 and with  
19 regulations adopted by the county.

20 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 234, Local Government  
21 Code, is amended by adding Sections 234.1341 and 234.1342 to read as  
22 follows:

23 Sec. 234.1341. APPLICATION FOR OWNER OR OPERATOR LICENSE OR  
24 PERMIT. (a) A county requiring a person to obtain a license or

1 permit to own or operate a game room in the county shall require the  
2 person to submit a completed application as provided by this  
3 section for issuance or renewal of the license or permit and an  
4 application fee of \$1,000 as required by the county.

5 (b) An application form developed by the county under this  
6 section must require the applicant to provide the following  
7 information:

8 (1) the name of the business, including a copy of the  
9 assumed name certificate;

10 (2) the legal name, social security number, date of  
11 birth, and other relevant information concerning each person who  
12 owns at least five percent of the business or serves in a management  
13 role for the business;

14 (3) the name and contact information of the owner of  
15 the property where the game room is located;

16 (4) information concerning any other game room  
17 previously or currently operated by the applicant;

18 (5) the applicant's fingerprints;

19 (6) a copy of the applicant's valid state-issued  
20 driver's license or personal identification card and social  
21 security card; and

22 (7) the applicant's consent for a criminal history  
23 record information check of the applicant.

24 Sec. 234.1342. APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYEE LICENSE OR PERMIT.

25 (a) A county requiring a person to obtain a license or permit to be  
26 employed by a game room in the county shall require the person to  
27 submit a completed application as provided by this section for

1 issuance or renewal of the license or permit and an application fee  
2 of \$50 as required by the county.

3 (b) An application form developed by the county under this  
4 section must require the applicant to provide the following  
5 information:

6 (1) the person's legal name, social security number,  
7 date of birth, and other relevant information;

8 (2) the person's criminal history;

9 (3) the applicant's fingerprints;

10 (4) a copy of the applicant's valid state-issued  
11 driver's license or personal identification card and social  
12 security card;

13 (5) a recent photograph of the applicant's face and a  
14 recent photograph of the applicant's full body; and

15 (6) the applicant's consent for a criminal history  
16 record information check of the applicant.

17 (c) A county may not issue or renew a license or permit for  
18 an applicant who has been previously convicted of a Class B  
19 misdemeanor or higher criminal offense.

20 (d) A county shall send a copy of fingerprints obtained  
21 under this section to the Department of Public Safety to allow the  
22 department to create a permanent record of the fingerprints in the  
23 criminal justice information system.

24 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a  
25 license or permit issued or renewed on or after the effective date  
26 of this Act.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.