

HB16-1189: Regulation of Bingo-Raffle Licensees

Background:

Charitable gaming is a vital source of revenue for over 1,200 Colorado nonprofits. In 2014, gross revenue from charitable gaming topped \$115 million, with about \$22 million directly supporting the missions of Colorado nonprofits.

HB16-1189 is a bill drafted in consultation with the Secretary of State's Bingo-Raffle Advisory Board, which meets six times per year, and addresses concerns voiced by Colorado's charitable gaming community.

What HB16-1189 does:

HB16-1189 cleans up statutory language from 2014 legislation governing charitable gaming in Colorado, clarifies existing statutory requirements, and provides additional flexibility to Colorado nonprofits and other organizations that raise money through charitable gaming. This bill:

- Clarifies the administrative appeal process for an organization denied a license, and brings the process into compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act.
- Responds to the requests of rural communities, allowing a licensed games manager to serve more than five bingo licensees who are searching for games managers.
- Allows organizations conducting charitable gaming to lease equipment from a bingo hall, rather than being required to purchase their own equipment.
- Enforces the goal of ensuring that gaming operations are not operating at a loss and thereby undermining an organization's purpose by clarifying that bingo licensees who consistently lose money on gaming need to show cause for why their license should not be revoked.
- Enhances transparency with respect to the awarding of prizes and gives more flexibility to organizations raising money through charitable gaming by allowing them to award consolation prizes even if progressive jackpots have already been awarded.

HB16-1189 ensures accountability and effective administration of charitable gaming in Colorado. Please support HB16-1189.