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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GAMBLING AND LOTTERIES

Introduced By: Senators Cote, and Picard

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 11-19 of the General Laws entitled "Gambling and Lotteries" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **11-19-32.2. Senior citizens' center -- Bingo allowed. -- (a) Notwithstanding any other**  
4 **provision of this chapter to the contrary, any organization which operates a public senior citizens**  
5 **center or senior center may obtain a permit approved by the department to conduct bingo games**  
6 **in said senior citizens center or senior center for up to five (5) calendar days per week, excluding**  
7 **Sundays.**

8           **(b) As used herein, the terms "senior citizens center" or "senior center" means an**  
9 **organization whose goal is the promotion of various recreational and educational activities to**  
10 **senior citizens and which receives a combination of federal, state, municipal and private funds to**  
11 **provide such services at a community facility.**

12           **(c) A senior citizens center or senior center may conduct bingo games if it complies with**  
13 **all of the following requirements:**

14           **(1) All bingo games are conducted only on the premises of the center's facility;**

15           **(2) All participants are age fifty-five (55) years of age or older; provided, this shall not**  
16 **prohibit a person who is less than fifty-five (55) years of age from assisting a senior citizen in**  
17 **playing the game;**

18           **(3) All bingo game operators are sixty (60) years of age or older and receive no**  
19 **compensation for serving as operators;**

1           (4) The total daily prizes shall not exceed four hundred dollars (\$400); and

2           (5) All proceeds of the game shall be limited in use to the following:

3           (i) To pay winners monetary prizes;

4           (ii) To defray any costs directly related to conducting the games; and/or

5           (iii) To defray costs of services the center's facility provides.

6           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GAMBLING AND LOTTERIES

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1           This act would permit a senior citizens center to obtain a permit approved by the division  
2 of state police to conduct bingo in the senior citizens center.

3           This act would take effect on July 1, 2013.

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