

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 540

BY REPRESENTATIVE GADBERRY

GAMING: Provides relative to electronic video bingo machines

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:724(J) and (K), relative to electronic video bingo machines;  
3 to provide relative to the operation of electronic video bingo machines; to provide  
4 relative to the types of games which are played or displayed on electronic video  
5 bingo machines; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 4:724(J) and (K) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
8 follows:

9 §724. Use of electronic or video bingo games

10 \* \* \*

11 J.~~(H)~~ Any person who is licensed as a distributor shall be permitted to operate  
12 electronic video bingo machines which are not in compliance with the provisions of  
13 R.S. 4:724(B)(5), ~~if either of the following occurs:~~

14 ~~(a) The licensed distributor has purchased or has entered into a lease~~  
15 ~~agreement approved by the office for the total number of electronic video bingo~~  
16 ~~machines to be placed at a specific location and the electronic video bingo machines~~  
17 ~~have been permitted by the office and placed at a location which has been approved~~  
18 ~~by the office on or prior to August 15, 2008; or~~

19 ~~(b) The licensed distributor has delivered to the office or has sent by certified~~  
20 ~~mail an application with the required fees to have electronic video bingo machines~~

1 permitted, which application has been received, but not approved by the office on or  
2 prior to August 15, 2008, and the application includes one of the following:

3 (i) ~~Proof of purchase for the total number of video bingo machines to be~~  
4 ~~placed at a specific location.~~

5 (ii) ~~A nonrefundable deposit of a minimum of twenty-five percent of the fair~~  
6 ~~market value of the wholesale purchase price of the total number of machines to be~~  
7 ~~placed at a specific location.~~

8 (iii) ~~A nonrefundable deposit on a lease agreement which is equivalent in~~  
9 ~~value to a minimum of twenty-five percent of the fair market value of the wholesale~~  
10 ~~purchase price of the total number of machines to be placed at a specific location.~~

11 (2) ~~Electronic video bingo machines authorized by the provisions of this~~  
12 ~~Subsection shall only be placed at one of the following locations:~~

13 (a) ~~A location which has been approved by the office on or prior to August~~  
14 ~~15, 2008; or~~

15 (b) ~~A location for which a completed application with the required fees for~~  
16 ~~the licensing to conduct charitable gaming at a specific location has been received~~  
17 ~~by the office on or prior to August 15, 2008. However, locations which have not~~  
18 ~~been approved by the office prior to August 15, 2008, but for which an application~~  
19 ~~has been timely filed as provided by this Subparagraph, shall have received final~~  
20 ~~approval from the office and must be occupied by August 15, 2009, in order to~~  
21 ~~operate electronic video bingo machines which are not in compliance with the~~  
22 ~~provisions of R.S. 4:724(B)(5).~~

23 K. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section to the contrary, any  
24 electronic video bingo machine authorized pursuant to Subsection J of this Section  
25 which is destroyed or rendered inoperable in any manner may be replaced by an  
26 electronic video bingo machine of a similar make and model which is not in  
27 compliance with the provisions of R.S. 4:724(B)(5) even if such replacement  
28 electronic video bingo machine was purchased after August 15, 2008.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 540 Original

2022 Regular Session

Gadberry

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the operation of video bingo machines which contain entertainment display features simulating slot reels or card games.

Present law (R.S. 4:724) provides for the operation of electronic video bingo games and provides that an electronic video bingo machine shall not contain entertainment display features simulating slot reels or card games.

Present law further provides that a licensed distributor may operate video bingo machines which are not in compliance with present law under either of the following circumstances:

- (1) The licensed distributor has purchased or entered into a lease agreement for the total number of electronic video bingo machines to be operated at a specific location on or prior to Aug. 15, 2008; or
- (2) The licensed distributor has delivered to the office of charitable gaming or sent by certified mail an application and fees to have machines permitted which has been received and not approved on or prior to Aug. 15, 2008, and the application includes one of the following:
  - (a) Proof of purchase for the total number of machines.
  - (b) A non-refundable deposit of a minimum of 25% of the wholesale purchase price for the total number of machines.
  - (c) A non-refundable deposit on a lease agreement which is equivalent in value to a minimum of 25% of the wholesale purchase price.

Present law provides that electronic video bingo machines authorized by present law may only be placed at one of the following locations:

- (1) A location approved by the office on or prior to Aug. 1, 2008.
- (2) A location for which a completed application with the required fees for the licensing to conduct charitable gaming at a specific location has been received by the office on or prior to Aug. 15, 2008. However, such locations shall have received final approval from the office and must be occupied by Aug. 15, 2009.

Proposed law removes the present law conditions for a person who is licensed as a distributor to operate electronic video bingo machines which are not in compliance with the provisions of present law (R.S. 4:724(B)(5)).

(Amends R.S. 4:724(J) and (K))