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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. **356**

01/24/2019 Authored by Halverson, Lien and Zerwas
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce
04/30/2020 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register as Amended
Pursuant to Joint Rule 2.03, re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to lawful gambling; providing relief to certain organizations affected by
1.3 executive order closing bars, restaurants, and other places of public accommodation;
1.4 providing waivers, extensions, and other temporary requirements and restrictions
1.5 for lawful gambling.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **EMERGENCY EXPENDITURES; BUSINESS LOANS.**

1.8 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a veterans or fraternal club that qualifies
1.9 to make utility payments under Minnesota Statutes, section 349.12, subdivision 25, paragraph
1.10 (a), clause (16), may loan lawful gambling funds to the organization's general account for
1.11 emergency expenditures with prior approval of the board's director. For purposes of this
1.12 section, "emergency expenditure" means money required by the organization to have
1.13 sufficient funds to: (1) reopen its primary headquarters or a non-gambling-related business
1.14 it conducts at its primary headquarters; or (2) meet a financial obligation due and payable
1.15 that, if not met, would require the organization to immediately close its primary headquarters
1.16 or a non-gambling-related business it conducts at its primary headquarters.

1.17 (b) All loans made under this section must be repaid to the gambling account within one
1.18 calendar year. As a condition of loan approval, the organization must agree to suspend the
1.19 conduct of lawful gambling one year from the loan date until such time as the entire amount
1.20 has been repaid to the gambling fund, to the satisfaction of the director.

1.21 (c) Applications for loans under this section must be received by the board no later than
1.22 90 days following the date that the governor's emergency executive authority has expired,
1.23 or is terminated or rescinded. For purposes of this section, "governor's emergency executive

2.1 authority" means the governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-04, 20-08, or 20-18, or
2.2 other subsequent executive order that provides for, modifies, or extends the temporary
2.3 closure of bars, restaurants, and other places of public accommodation in response to the
2.4 COVID-19 pandemic.

2.5 (d) If a veterans or fraternal club is terminating lawful gambling and the loan under this
2.6 section has not been repaid, the loan repayment must be included in the termination plan.

2.7 (e) This section does not authorize the use of gambling funds as loan collateral.

2.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
2.9 expires the day that the governor's emergency executive authority has expired, or is
2.10 terminated or rescinded.

2.11 **Sec. 2. USE OF GROSS PROFITS; TEMPORARY EXPENDITURE**
2.12 **REQUIREMENTS.**

2.13 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 349.15, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), or
2.14 any other law to the contrary, an organization that fails to expend a minimum of 30 percent
2.15 annually of gross profits on lawful purposes, or 20 percent annually for organizations that
2.16 conduct lawful gambling in a location where the primary business is bingo for fiscal year
2.17 2019, is automatically on probation effective July 1, 2020, for a period of two years. The
2.18 organization must increase its rating to the required minimum for fiscal year 2021 or be
2.19 subject to sanctions by the board. If an organization fails to meet the minimum for fiscal
2.20 year 2021, the board may suspend the organization's license or impose a civil penalty as
2.21 provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 349.15, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clauses (1)
2.22 and (2).

2.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
2.24 expires June 30, 2021.

2.25 **Sec. 3. TEMPORARY SALES ON CREDIT RESTRICTION.**

2.26 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the 30-day limit on credit for the sale of lawful
2.27 gambling equipment contained in Minnesota Statutes, section 349.191, subdivision 1, does
2.28 not apply during the period that the governor's emergency executive authority is in force.
2.29 For purposes of this section, "governor's emergency executive authority" means the
2.30 governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-04, 20-08, or 20-18, or other subsequent executive
2.31 order that provides for, modifies, or extends the temporary closure of bars, restaurants, and
2.32 other places of public accommodation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and the

3.1 governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-20, or other subsequent executive order that
3.2 provides for, modifies, or extends the restriction to stay at home or in place of residence,
3.3 except to engage in exempt activities and critical sector work in response to the COVID-19
3.4 pandemic.

3.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from March 17, 2020, and
3.6 expires the day that the governor's emergency executive authority has expired, or is
3.7 terminated or rescinded.

3.8 **Sec. 4. USE OF GROSS PROFITS; EVALUATION OF EXPENDITURES.**

3.9 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section
3.10 349.15, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), are waived for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

3.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.12 **Sec. 5. EXTENSION OF LICENSE RENEWAL DATES.**

3.13 (a) The expiration dates for annual licenses required by Minnesota Statutes, sections
3.14 349.16, subdivisions 3 and 6; 349.161, subdivision 4; 349.163, subdivision 2; 349.1635,
3.15 subdivision 2; 349.165, subdivision 1; and 349.167, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), are
3.16 extended two calendar months from the respective licenses' current expiration dates.

3.17 (b) This subdivision applies only to licenses that were effective on April 1, 2020.

3.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.19 **Sec. 6. EXEMPT ACTIVITIES.**

3.20 (a) The \$150 application fee under Minnesota Statutes, section 349.166, subdivision 2,
3.21 paragraph (a), is waived for 60 days following the date that the governor's emergency
3.22 executive authority has expired, or is terminated or rescinded. The waiver granted under
3.23 this paragraph is onetime.

3.24 (b) An organization that was granted a permit under Minnesota Statutes, section 349.166,
3.25 subdivision 2, paragraph (a), for an exempt activity that occurred during the time that the
3.26 governor's emergency executive authority was in force, may postpone its exempt activity
3.27 for up to 400 days from the original date.

3.28 (c) For purposes of this section, "governor's emergency executive authority" means the
3.29 governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-20, or other subsequent executive order that
3.30 provides for, modifies, or extends the restriction to stay at home or in place of residence,

4.1 except to engage in exempt activities and critical sector work in response to the COVID-19
4.2 pandemic.

4.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
4.4 expires on the day that the governor's emergency executive authority has expired, or is
4.5 terminated or rescinded.

4.6 **Sec. 7. TRAINING OF GAMBLING MANAGERS.**

4.7 The 90-day gambling training requirement in Minnesota Statutes, section 349.167,
4.8 subdivision 4, is extended 60 days following the date that the governor's emergency executive
4.9 authority has expired, or is terminated or rescinded. For purposes of this section, "governor's
4.10 emergency executive authority" means the governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-20,
4.11 or other subsequent executive order that provides for, modifies, or extends the restriction
4.12 to stay at home or in place of residence, except to engage in exempt activities and critical
4.13 sector work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
4.15 expires on the day that the governor's emergency executive authority has expired, or is
4.16 terminated or rescinded.