

Legislative Analysis



CHARITABLE GAMING: DEFINITION OF “OCCASION”

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5902 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. John Chirkun
Committee: Regulatory Reform
Complete to 8-31-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5902 would amend the Traxler-McCauley-Law-Bowman Bingo Act to revise the definition, for purposes of the act, of the term *occasion*.

Currently, it means “a single day for which a license to conduct games is issued under this act.”

Under the bill, it would mean “the hours of the day for which a license is issued.”

MCL 432.103

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would increase charitable gaming revenues by an unknown amount due to the estimated increase in authorized games. Prior to 2019 PA 159, the definition of *occasion* mirrored the language proposed by HB 5902. The definitional change under 2019 PA 159 effectively reduced the number of daily games at authorized locations to one, thereby reducing charitable gaming revenues. Due to reporting lags and closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, an estimate of the reduction of charitable gaming revenues due to this definitional change cannot be determined with any accuracy.

After deducting Charitable Gaming Division expenses, net revenue is deposited in the state’s general fund. The general fund transfer totaled \$1.9 million in FY 2019.

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