

2021 -- S 0838

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LC002660
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- GAMES OF CHANCE -- FILING
REQUIREMENTS

Introduced By: Senators F Lombardi, Lombardo, Picard, Lawson, Ciccone, Gallo, and
Felag

Date Introduced: April 23, 2021

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-50-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-50 entitled "Games of
2 Chance" is hereby repealed.

3 **11-50-1. Filing requirement.**

4 ~~Any person, firm, or corporation proposing to engage in any game, contest, or other~~
5 ~~promotion or advertising scheme or plan in which a retail establishment offers the opportunity to~~
6 ~~receive gifts, prizes, or gratuities, as determined by chance, in order to promote its retail business,~~
7 ~~where the total announced value of the prizes offered to the general public is in excess of five~~
8 ~~hundred dollars (\$500), shall file with the secretary of state upon a form that he or she shall provide~~
9 ~~a statement setting forth: (1) the minimum number of participating objects to be made available;~~
10 ~~(2) the minimum number of prize winning objects that will be included in the promotion or~~
11 ~~advertising scheme or plan; (3) the proportionate opportunity of winning prizes; (4) the minimum~~
12 ~~value of prizes to be made available; and (5) the rules and regulations pertaining to the promotion~~
13 ~~or advertising scheme or plan which shall include the period of time and the geographic area to be~~
14 ~~covered by the contest. There shall be a filing fee of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) when the~~
15 ~~statement is filed. Failure to file a statement shall be a misdemeanor.~~

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would remove the requirement that retail businesses that promote themselves using
2 games of chance register those games of chance with the secretary of state and pay a one hundred
3 fifty dollar (\$150) filing fee. This act would enable Rhode Island residents to participate in games
4 of chance run by out-of-state companies that no longer have to register here.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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