

Sixty-second  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1279**

Introduced by

Representatives Maragos, DeKrey, Martinson, J. Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new subdivision to subsection 3 of section 53-06.1-03 of  
2 the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the maximum number of paperless pull tab devices  
3 per site; and to amend and reenact section 53-06.1-01, subsection 4 of section 53-06.1-01.1,  
4 subsection 1 of section 53-06.1-06, and section 53-06.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
5 relating to the use of paperless pull tabs and paperless pull tab devices.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-06.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **53-06.1-01. Definitions.**

10 As used in this chapter:

- 11 1. "Adjusted gross proceeds" means gross proceeds less cash prizes, cost of  
12 merchandise prizes, bingo cards excise tax, pull tab excise tax, and federal excise tax  
13 imposed under section 4401 of the Internal Revenue Code [26 U.S.C. 4401].
- 14 2. "Charitable organization" means an organization whose primary purpose is for relief of  
15 poor, distressed, underprivileged, diseased, elderly, or abused persons, prevention of  
16 cruelty to children or animals, or similar condition of public concern.
- 17 3. "Civic and service organization" means an organization whose primary purpose is to  
18 promote the common good and social welfare of a community as a sertoma, lion,  
19 rotary, jaycee, kiwanis, or similar organization.
- 20 4. "Closely related organization" means an organization that controls, is controlled by, or  
21 is under common control with another organization. Control exists when an  
22 organization has the authority or ability to elect, appoint, or remove a majority of the  
23 officers or directors of another organization or, by policy, contract, or otherwise, has

the authority or ability to directly or indirectly direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of another organization.

5. "Distributor" means a person that sells, markets, or distributes equipment designed for use in the conduct of games.

6. "Educational organization" means a nonprofit public or private elementary or secondary school, two-year or four-year college, or university.

7. "Eligible organization" means a veterans, charitable, educational, religious, fraternal, civic and service, public safety, or public-spirited organization domiciled in North Dakota or authorized by the secretary of state as a foreign corporation under chapter 10-33, incorporated as a nonprofit organization, and which has been regularly and actively fulfilling its primary purpose within this state during the two immediately preceding years. However, an educational organization does not need to be incorporated or be in existence for two years. An organization's primary purpose may not involve the conduct of games. The organization may be issued a license by the attorney general. For purposes of this section, a foreign corporation authorized under chapter 10-33 is not an eligible organization unless authorized to conduct a raffle under chapter 20.1-08 and may not conduct a game other than a raffle under chapter 20.1-08.

8. "Fraternal organization" means an organization, except a school fraternity, which is a branch, lodge, or chapter of a national or state organization and exists for the common business, brotherhood, or other interests of its members. The organization must have qualified for exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(8) or 501(c)(10) of the Internal Revenue Code.

9. "Games" means games of chance.

10. "Gross proceeds" means all cash and checks received from conducting games.

11. "Licensed organization" means an eligible organization licensed by the attorney general.

12. "Manufacturer" means, for a pull tab or bingo card, a person who designs, prints, assembles, or produces the product. For a pull tab or bingo card dispensing device, a paperless pull tab device, or bingo card marking device, a manufacturer means the

- 1 person who directly controls and manages development of and owns the rights to the  
2 proprietary software encoded on a processing chip that enables the device to operate.
- 3 13. "Net income" means gross proceeds less cash prizes, cost of merchandise prizes, and  
4 expenses to conduct the gaming activity.
- 5 14. "Net proceeds" means adjusted gross proceeds less allowable expenses and gaming  
6 tax.
- 7 15. "Paperless pull tab" means an electronic image of a pull tab.
- 8 16. "Paperless pull tab device" means a fixed base, nonmobile device, approved by the  
9 attorney general, which electronically dispenses and displays paperless pull tabs and  
10 which dispenses a paper cash-out slip for the redemption of winnings.
- 11 ~~16.17.~~ "Permit" means a local permit or charity local permit issued by a governing body of a  
12 city or county to a nonprofit organization or group of people domiciled in North Dakota.
- 13 ~~16.17.18.~~ "Person" means any person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company,  
14 association, or organization.
- 15 ~~17.18.19.~~ "Prize board" means a board used with pull tabs to award cash or merchandise  
16 prizes.
- 17 ~~18.19.20.~~ "Public safety organization" means an organization whose primary purpose is  
18 to provide firefighting, ambulance service, crime prevention, or similar emergency  
19 assistance.
- 20 ~~19.20.21.~~ "Public-spirited organization" means an organization whose primary purpose is  
21 for scientific research, amateur sports competition, safety, literary, arts, preservation of  
22 cultural heritage, educational activities, educational public service, youth, economic  
23 development, tourism, community medical care, community recreation, or similar  
24 organization, which does not meet the definition of any other type of eligible  
25 organization. However, a nonprofit organization or a group of people recognized as a  
26 public-spirited organization by a governing body of a city or county for obtaining a  
27 permit does not need to meet this definition.
- 28 ~~21.22.~~ "Pull tab" means a folded or banded ticket or jar ticket, a pull tab card with break-open  
29 tabs, or a paperless pull tab displaying concealed numbers or symbols or  
30 combinations thereof which are exposed by a player to determine the outcome. The  
31 term "pull tab" and "jar ticket" are used interchangeably unless otherwise stated. A

1           winning pull tab contains certain symbols, numbers, or combinations thereof and may  
2           contain multiple winning symbols, numbers, or combinations thereof which have been  
3           previously designated as winning symbols or numbers.

4   ~~20-22-23.~~       "Religious organization" means a church, body of communicants, or group  
5           gathered in common membership whose primary purpose is for advancement of  
6           religion, mutual support and edification in piety, worship, and religious observances.

7   ~~21-23-24.~~       "Veterans organization" means any congressionally chartered post  
8           organization, or any branch or lodge or chapter of a nonprofit national or state  
9           organization whose membership consists of individuals who are or were members of  
10          the armed services or forces of the United States. The organization must have  
11          qualified for exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(19) of the  
12          Internal Revenue Code.

13       **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 4 of section 53-06.1-01.1 of the North Dakota  
14 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15       4.   The commission shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 28-32, to administer and  
16          regulate the gaming industry, including methods of conduct, play, and promotion of  
17          games; minimum procedures and standards for recordkeeping and internal control;  
18          requiring tax returns and reports from organizations or distributors; methods of  
19          competition and doing business by distributors and manufacturers; acquisition and use  
20          of gaming equipment; quality standards or specifications for the manufacture of pull  
21          tabs, paper bingo cards, paperless pull tab devices, pull tab and bingo card dispensing  
22          devices, and bingo card marking devices; to ensure that net proceeds are used for  
23          educational, charitable, patriotic, fraternal, religious, or public-spirited uses; to protect  
24          and promote the public interest; to ensure fair and honest games; to ensure that fees  
25          and taxes are paid; and to prevent and detect unlawful gambling activity.

26       **SECTION 3.** A new subdivision to subsection 3 of section 53-06.1-03 of the North Dakota  
27 Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

28           The maximum number of paperless pull tab devices per site is limited to six.

29       **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 53-06.1-06 of the North Dakota  
30 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 1        1. No person, except a member, volunteer, an employee of a licensed organization or an  
2        organization that has a permit, or an employee of a temporary employment agency  
3        who provides services to a licensed organization, may manage, control, or conduct  
4        any game. "Member" includes a member of an auxiliary organization. In conducting  
5        pull tabs, prize boards, or bingo through a dispensing device, selling pull tabs through  
6        a paperless pull tab device, selling raffle tickets, or conducting sports pools, the  
7        attorney general may allow an employee of an alcoholic beverage establishment to  
8        provide limited assistance to an organization.

9        **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-06.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
10       amended and reenacted as follows:

11       **53-06.1-14. Distributors and manufacturers.**

- 12       1. A manufacturer of pull tabs, bingo cards, paperless pull tab devices, or bingo card  
13       marking devices shall apply annually for a license and pay a license fee of four  
14       thousand dollars. A manufacturer of pull tab dispensing devices shall apply annually  
15       for a license and pay a license fee of one thousand dollars. A distributor shall apply  
16       annually for a license and pay a license fee of one thousand five hundred dollars.  
17       Application must be made before the first day of April in each year on a form  
18       prescribed by the attorney general.
- 19       2. A licensed distributor may not sell, market, or distribute gaming equipment except to a  
20       licensed distributor, licensed organization, organization that has a permit, or other  
21       person authorized by gaming rule or the attorney general. A manufacturer of a pull tab  
22       dispensing device, pull tab, paperless pull tab device, bingo card marking device, or  
23       bingo card may only sell, market, or distribute the manufacturer's pull tab dispensing  
24       device and processing chip encoded with proprietary software, pull tab, paperless pull  
25       tab device, bingo card marking device, or bingo card to a licensed distributor. A  
26       licensed distributor may purchase or acquire a pull tab dispensing device and  
27       processing chip encoded with proprietary software, pull tab, paperless pull tab device,  
28       bingo card marking device, or bingo card only from a licensed manufacturer or  
29       licensed distributor. However, a distributor may purchase or acquire a used pull tab  
30       dispensing device or paperless pull tab device from a licensed organization. A  
31       distributor may not duplicate a manufacturer's processing chip encoded with

1           proprietary software. No gaming equipment or prize may be sold or leased at an  
2           excessive price.

3           3. A licensed distributor shall affix a North Dakota gaming stamp to each deal of pull tabs  
4           and bingo cards, punchboard, sports pool board, calcutta board, and series of  
5           paddlewheel ticket cards sold or otherwise provided to a licensed organization and  
6           shall purchase the stamps from the attorney general for thirty-five cents each. Ten  
7           cents of each stamp sold by the attorney general, up to thirty-six thousand dollars per  
8           biennium, must be credited to the attorney general's operating fund to defray the costs  
9           of issuing and administering the gaming stamps.

10          4. A licensed organization, organization that has a permit, licensed manufacturer, or  
11          North Dakota wholesaler of liquor or alcoholic beverages may not be a distributor or  
12          stockholder of a distributor. A distributor may not be a stockholder of a manufacturer.

13          5. In addition to the license fee, the attorney general may require advance payment of  
14          any fee necessary to pay the cost of a record check of an applicant according to  
15          subdivision c of subsection 5 of section 53-06.1-06.

16          6. A licensed manufacturer may not refuse to sell deals of pull tabs or paper bingo cards  
17          to a licensed distributor unless:

- 18           a. A specific deal of pull tabs is sold on an exclusive basis;
- 19           b. The manufacturer does not sell deals of pull tabs or paper bingo cards to any  
20           distributor in the state;
- 21           c. A gaming law or rule prohibits the sale;
- 22           d. The distributor has not provided the manufacturer with proof of satisfactory credit  
23           or is delinquent on any payment owed to the manufacturer; or
- 24           e. The distributor has not met the manufacturer's standard minimum order quantity  
25           and freight terms.