



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

SENIOR RECREATIONAL BINGO

House Bill 5112

Sponsor: Rep. Joseph Young, Jr.

Committee: State Affairs

Complete to 9-18-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5112 AS INTRODUCED 9-11-91

The Traxler-McCauley-Law-Bowman Bingo Act (Public Act 382 of 1972) allows certain "qualified organizations" (certain bona fide religious, educational, service, senior citizens, fraternal, or veterans' organizations) to obtain licenses to conduct bingo games.

The bill would amend the act, adding a new section to allow "recreational bingo" to be conducted by certain senior citizens' clubs (or groups consisting of at least 15 members who are at least 60 years old) without having to first obtain a license. Such groups, in order to qualify for conducting bingo games without a license, would have to meet all of the following requirements:

- * The bingo could be conducted "solely for the amusement and recreation of the members and guests of the senior citizens club or group and not for fund-raising;"
- * Only active members of the club or group could participate in the operation of the bingo;
- * The club or group would have to have applied for, and received, an identification number from the Bureau of State Lottery to permit the buying or renting of bingo equipment from a licensed supplier;
- * Players could not be charged more than 25 cents for a bingo card and the total retail value of all prizes and merchandise awarded at one time could not exceed \$100; and
- * All revenue from the bingo would have to be used for prizes and reasonable expenses incurred in operating the bingo, and no one could be paid for participating in conducting the bingo.

The bill would allow the Bureau of State Lottery to issue an identification number (to permit the buying or renting of bingo equipment from a licensed supplier) to a senior citizens club or group if the club or group submitted a written statement, signed by the presiding officer of the club or group:

- * that it met all of the bill's requirements,
- * that the bingo would be conducted according to all of the bill's requirements, and
- * that the information included on the application was "true, correct, and complete" to the officer's best knowledge.

In addition, the bill would require that all changes to the club or group which might affect its qualifying for conducting bingo without a license be registered in writing with the bureau.

MCL 432.105a

House Bill 5112 (9-18-91)