

State of Louisiana
Department of Revenue

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Office of Charitable Gaming
Information Bulletin

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Recent Law Change-Operation of Electronic Video Bingo Machines

Act 316 of the 2020 Regular Session, which was signed into law on June 12, 2020, amended La. R.S. 4:714 and 740(A), and enacted R.S. 4:724.1 modifying the laws that impact the operation of electronic video bingo machines. These new statutory changes allow electronic video bingo machines (“Machines”) to be available for play at locations licensed for charitable bingo (“Licensed Locations”), including commercial or non-commercial Licensed Locations that rent to other charities.

Additionally, at commercial or non-commercial Licensed Locations that rent to other charities, Machines may be played only when a licensed organization has at least one member (from the licensed organization) present on the premises and the Machine playing time does not exceed 8 hours per charity when a live bingo game session (“Session”) is not being called. Licensed organizations should also know the laws applicable to a Session, which include the following:

- A Session cannot exceed 8 consecutive hours, must have at least 12 hours between each Session, and are limited to 1 Session per calendar day per licensed organization; and,
- Licensed organizations are not allowed to begin a Session until the time listed on its Office of Charitable Gaming (OCG) license.

These Session requirements are important because they also impact the amount of time Machines can be played. More specifically, Machines can only be played 8 hours per day per licensed organization at any one commercial or non-commercial Licensed Location.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this OCG information bulletin, you may contact the OCG via email at ocg@la.gov, or phone at 225-925-1835 or 1-800-562-9235.

Kimberly Lewis Robinson
Secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue

The Office of Charitable Gaming (OCG) has issued this information bulletin in compliance with La. R.S. 4:705(9) to familiarize the public and its external customers with provisions of the Charitable Gaming laws. This bulletin contains informal information but does not have the force and effect of law.