

HB 207 -- Satellite Bingo

Sponsor: Wagner

This bill:

- (1) Includes "satellite bingo" with "bingo" as a licensed gaming activity and requires satellite bingo operators to follow the same licensing procedures and regulations required for organizations licensed to conduct bingo games;
- (2) Requires that all net proceeds derived from state taxes relating to satellite bingo be deposited in the Bingo for Education Fund;
- (3) Requires organizations wishing to conduct satellite bingo games to become members of the satellite bingo network;
- (4) Allows a satellite bingo broadcaster to market the satellite bingo concept to any organization licensed to operate bingo games;
- (5) Requires the satellite bingo broadcaster to install the equipment necessary for each member of the satellite bingo network to participate in the satellite bingo games;
- (6) Explains the specific obligations of the satellite bingo broadcaster;
- (7) Explains the method by which a satellite bingo producer is selected and his specific obligations;
- (8) Requires each member of the satellite bingo network to pool a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of bingo cards so that their customers can play for the progressive prize;
- (9) Allows only one satellite bingo game to be played per day;
- (10) Allows only three types of prizes to be awarded for any one game: the progressive prize, the bonus prize, and the consolation prize;
- (11) Allocates the percentage of total revenue collected from the sale of bingo cards at all the bingo halls of all the members of the satellite bingo network that will be used to pay out the three types of prizes;
- (12) Requires that, if no customer wins the progressive prize for a particular game, the prize money accumulates and is added to the next game's progressive prize until the prize is won;

(13) Requires that numbers will be called until at least one customer in the whole satellite network wins the bonus prize. If there is more than one winner, the winners will split the bonus prize equally;

(14) Requires that numbers will be called until at least one customer at each bingo hall wins the consolation prize. If there is more than one winner at any particular bingo hall, the winners will split the consolation prize equally;

(15) States that any revenues required by the state will be paid by the satellite bingo broadcaster based on the collective number of bingo cards sold;

(16) Explains the role of volunteer staff at each of the members of the satellite bingo network; and

(17) Defines several new terms, including "satellite bingo," "satellite bingo broadcaster," "satellite bingo network," and "satellite bingo producer."