HB 1339 -- Bingo

Sponsor: Lair

This bill changes the laws regarding bingo. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Allows organizations with abbreviated licenses to conduct bingo games up to 15 times annually instead of up to four times annually;

(2) Requires all organizations licensed to conduct bingo games to pay a \$50 annual license fee;

(3) Authorizes the Missouri Gaming Commission to establish the daily prize amounts instead of those currently specified in statute;

(4) Removes the provision specifying that a single special game bingo card cannot exceed 50 cents and revises the provision prohibiting a licensee from requiring a minimum number of cards to be purchased in order to participate in a bingo game to prohibiting a licensee from requiring a player to purchase more than a standard pack of bingo cards;

(5) Allows licensees to conduct bingo games twice a week instead of once a week;

(6) Increases the amount which may be used for advertising from 2% to 10% of the total amount expended from bingo receipts;

(7) Removes the provision which prohibits licensees from advertisements referencing the aggregate values of bingo prizes;

(8) Prohibits bingo games from operating between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. Currently, no games can be conducted between midnight and 10 a.m.;

(9) Requires all regular bingo licensees and any special bingo licensee or abbreviated pull tab licensee who conducts on more than three occasions in any calendar year to make quarterly reports to the commission;

(10) Changes the record retention requirement on bingo games conducted from three to two years except for specified records;

(11) Increases the one-time application fee for a manufacturer's license to an amount not to exceed \$5,000 and the renewal fee to an amount not to exceed \$1,000; and

(12) Requires the applicant for a supplier or manufacturer license to be responsible for all investigative costs incurred by the commission including travel expenses.