

HOUSE BILL NO. 209

INTRODUCED BY R. MARSHALL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REMOVING THE LIMIT ON PRIZES FOR INDIVIDUAL LIVE CARD GAMES; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 23-5-312 AND 23-5-710, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 23-5-312, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-5-312. Prizes not to exceed \$800 Payment of prizes -- exception. ~~(1) A prize for an individual live card game may not exceed the value of \$800. Games may not be combined in any manner so as to increase the value of the ultimate prize awarded. There is no value limit on prizes for individual live card games.~~ Except during a tournament conducted under 23-5-317, all prizes must be awarded immediately ~~upon~~on completion of each hand.

~~(2) If a licensed operator conducts a promotional game of chance involving a live card game, the prize limit provided for in subsection (1) applies to prizes awarded as a result of the promotional game of chance."~~

Section 2. Section 23-5-710, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-5-710. Requirements for conducting casino nights. A nonprofit organization that has obtained a permit under 23-5-706 shall conduct a casino night in compliance with the following conditions:

(1) (a) Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), a casino night may not last more than 12 consecutive hours.

(b) A casino night may be split into two separate, 6-consecutive hour sessions that may not be held on the same day but must be held in the same calendar year.

(2) The casino night must be managed and operated only by members of the nonprofit organization that was issued the permit under 23-5-706. The members may not be compensated for their services.

(3) Only merchandise or cash may be awarded as prizes.

