

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 826

PRINTER NO. 2085

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 14, 2019

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Marshall

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 826 creates the stand-alone Sports Raffle Charities Act by repealing Section 304.1 (Major League sports drawings) of the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act of 1988. The Local Option Small Games of Chance Act authorizes the licensing of eligible organizations to conduct games of chance in the Commonwealth.

This legislation repeals Section 304.1 and duplicates the language, while making a few changes to establish the Sports Raffle Charities Act, which will continue to authorize 50/50 drawings at certain sporting events. House Bill 826 provides that certain non-profit organizations that are affiliated with collegiate teams may also conduct 50/50 raffles for charity if the college is qualified for an exemption under Sections 501 (c)(3) or 115 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Additionally, House Bill 826 allows 50/50 drawing tickets to be purchased with a credit or debit card.

House Bill 826 creates a new definition of "team event" to allow 50/50 drawings to occur at practices, scrimmages and exhibitions. The legislation also authorizes United States Service Academies to conduct 50/50 raffles at games played at neutral locations throughout the Commonwealth.

This act shall take effect in 30 days.

FISCAL IMPACT

House Bill 826 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Current law allows entities to offer games of chance with the intent of raising funds for non-profits, charitable and civic organizations. Expanding the range of eligible athletic events to conduct 50/50 drawings will create new opportunities to raise funds for those organizations.