

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 394

50th Legislature, 1st Session, 2011

Tracking Number: .184714.1

Short Title: Bingo & Raffle Act Organization Definitions

Sponsor(s): Representative Rick Miera

Analyst: James Ball

Date: March 8, 2011

Bill Summary:

HB 394 amends two definitions in the *New Mexico Bingo and Raffle Act*:

- “Educational Organization” to include “recognized student organizations”; and
- “Fraternal Organization” to include “college and high school fraternal organizations” that are branches, lodges, or chapters of national or state organizations.

Fiscal Impact:

HB 394 does not contain an appropriation.

According to the analysis of HB 394 by the Gaming Control Board (GCB), there could be a slight increase in license fees and tax revenue generated as a result of an increase in the number of organizations eligible to conduct games of chance.

Substantive Issues:

Some of the youth organizations that might benefit from the provisions of HB 394 include:

- athletic teams;
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters;
- Boy Scouts of America;
- Boys & Girls Clubs;
- Boys State/Girls State;
- Extra-curricular activities groups (chess club, speech and debate);
- Future Farmers of America;
- Future Teachers of America;
- Model United Nations;
- National Honor Society;
- Performance groups (band, choir, theater);
- student councils;
- Teen Court; and
- YMCA/YWCA.

In addition, most of the Greek-letter and other college and university fraternal organizations would qualify to conduct games of chance under HB 394. These would include the many social, service, professional, and honor societies on campuses.

Background:

In the past, school fundraisers, particularly in elementary, middle, and high schools, generally have been limited to activities, such as:

- selling products (food, candy, magazine subscriptions);
- soliciting donations;
- soliciting sponsorships (runs, walks, races);
- auctions and raffles;
- meals (pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners); and
- events (dances, golf tournaments).

Related Bills:

HB 340 *Credit Unions to Conduct Certain Raffles*

SB 229 *State Bank Savings Promotion Raffles*

SB 270a *Savings Promotion Raffles*