

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Provide Exceptions to the Games  
of Chance Laws for Children's Games'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'**Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §331, sub-§2-B** is enacted to read:

**2-B. Exceptions for persons under 16.** Notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, upon receiving an application on a form provided by the Chief of the State Police and a determination by the chief that a game of chance licensed to be conducted at a festival-style event is designed to attract players under 16 years of age and awards a nonmonetary prize valued at less than \$10 for every chance played, the chief may permit:

A. Persons under 16 years of age to conduct or operate the game of chance; and

B. Persons under 16 years of age to play the game of chance without being accompanied by an adult.

Nothing in this subsection may be construed to permit games of chance to be operated without a license.

**Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §340, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 225, §3, is further amended to read:

~~Not~~Except as provided in section 331, subsection 2-B, a licensee, game owner or operator may not permit persons under the age of 16 years to take part in a game of chance. Not~~and~~a person under the age of 16 years may not sell chances, except in relation to charitable, religious or recognized youth associations.'

## SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill, which allowed for the operation of games of chance by a nonprofit organization without a license. The amendment instead provides that certain games of chance that are intended for play by children at festival-style events may be operated by persons under 16 years of age and may be played by persons under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult. This exception to current law and rule would apply only to games in which a nonmonetary prize valued at less than \$10 is awarded for every chance played and would require approval from the Chief of the State Police.