

Stand Up For California!

"Citizens making a difference"

standupca.org

P.O. Box 355
Penryn, CA 95663

April 1, 2008

Honorable Senator Cedillo
Assembly Member
State Capitol Room
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX -916-327-8817

RE: Oppose SB 1328

Dear Assembly Member Cedillo:

Stand Up For California writes today to oppose SB 1328 as it is currently written.

The language of your bill is contrary to the will of the voters in the authorization of "Bingo" June 1976 - Proposition 9. The game of "Bingo" is to be played as a charity game for non profit organizations and staffed only by members of the non profit organization. Bingo Staff prohibited from receiving a salary for operation of the game is an intentional safeguard. A reasonable exception was made for security personnel.

- Your legislation removes the pot limit of \$250.00. The game of "Bingo" becomes "high stakes" rather than a charitable social effort that voters approved to raise funds for the needy.
- Your new amendment allowing Technical and Financial Staff to receive salary is not only contrary to the will of the voters but creates a loop-hole which without uniform state regulatory oversight could ostensibly be used for the skimming or laundering of money. The authorization of additional salaried employees is a red flag undermining the stated purpose of California voters in 1976.
- The introduction of linking charitable games through the internet, cable, satellite, broadband or telephone lines present additional concerns with current federal Internet gaming laws (2005 UIGA) and the Wire Act (1961).

State legislators must proceed cautiously to ensure that the game of "Bingo" is for the benefit of charitable organizations exempt from the California Franchise Tax Board. Machine manufacturers have long used a strategy to exploit charity gaming laws to establish new gaming jurisdictions. The regulatory framework of the game of "Bingo" must be stringent and free of ambiguities to prevent the introduction of criminal elements into games designated for the benefit of tax exempt charities and the needy public that relies upon them.

Please list Stand Up For California as opposed to SB 1328 as it is currently drafted.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Schmit – Director
916-663-3207

CC: Chris Lindstrom –Senate G. O. Staff Director
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