

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: #24-11

SUBMITTED BY: Department Legislative Committee

SUBJECT: Support Expansion of Charity Gaming HB 5085 or Similar Legislation

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The American Legion, Department of Michigan is a 501(c)(19) non-profit organization; and

WHEREAS, Like other non-profit organizations in the State of Michigan, The American Legion provides many needed benefits to their State and local communities; and

WHEREAS, Veteran non-profit organizations offer support to veterans and their local community through outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, These services do, in many cases, have a monetary price tag associated with them; and

WHEREAS, Over the past few years these services have seen a raise in the cost to The American Legion, its Posts, and all non-profits; and

WHEREAS, Over the past few years the amount of revenue raised to support these programs has been less; and

WHEREAS, HB 5085, or similar legislation, would offer an opportunity to The American Legion, and other non-profits, to expand the revenue raised for use to support Veteran programs and other community based programs; and

WHEREAS, HB 5085, or similar legislation, will also support the funds used to support State mandated benefit for Veterans qualifying for no local property tax; and

WHEREAS, HB 5085 will, as required by State Law, designate that forty percent (40%) of the money obtained from the sale of the charity game tickets be retained by the bureau; and

WHEREAS, The remaining sixty percent (60%) will be retained by the qualified organization; and

WHEREAS, Of the remaining sixty percent (60%), forty-five percent (45%) will go to the qualified organization that conducted the charity game; and

WHEREAS, If the qualified organization that conducted the charity game is a member of a qualified statewide organization, an additional five percent (5%) to the statewide organization's headquarters, if they meet the following qualifications: headquarters in this state, operating for no fewer than two (2) years, have no fewer than two (2) full time employees and is also a non-profit; and

WHEREAS, If the qualified organization that conducted the charity game is not a member of a statewide qualified organization, the above additional five percent (5%) will then be split as follows: fifty percent (50%) to the Charity Game Veterans Fund created within the State Treasury, to be used to provide grants to the National Guard Association of Michigan, not in excess of \$3,000,000, in any one fiscal year, with adjustments based on the "Detroit Consumer Price Index" yearly, and to reimburse local taxing units that bear the loss of revenue under Section 7b of the General Property Tax Act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7b; and

WHEREAS, Any remaining amount, after the reimbursements above, will be divided as follows: fifty percent (50%) to the County Veteran Affairs offices and fifty percent (50%) to the Michigan Veterans Coalition; and

WHEREAS, While the percentages may change in a final bill, the overall concept is to raise funds for non-profits and Veterans organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Winter Meeting, assembled in Flint, Michigan, February 10-11, 2024, That The American Legion, Department of Michigan supports HB 5085; and, be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, That the American Legion, Department of Michigan supports all efforts by the State of Michigan to expand Charitable Gaming electronic pull tab machines to any qualified non-profit organization in the State of Michigan.

APPROVED REJECTED _____ REFERRED TO _____ APPROVED w/AMEND _____