

By Messrs. Chapman of Boston and Tynan of Boston, petition of Philip A. Chapman and John T. Tynan for legislation to authorize the licensing and conducting of the game called "Beano". Legal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Four.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE LICENSING AND CONDUCTING OF A GAME COMMONLY CALLED "BEANO".

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 271 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by inserting after section 22A the following section:—  
3 *Section 22B.* Nothing in this chapter shall au-  
4 thorize the prosecution, arrest or conviction of any  
5 person for conducting, promoting or playing, or for  
6 allowing to be conducted, promoted or played, the  
7 game commonly called beano, or substantially the  
8 same game under another name in connection with  
9 which prizes are offered to be won by chance; pro-  
10 vided, the said game of beano is conducted under a  
11 license so to do by a fraternal organization having  
12 chapters or branches in at least two New England  
13 states, or a religious organization under the control or  
14 affiliated with an established church of the common-  
15 wealth, or a veterans organization chartered by the  
16 Congress of the United States.

17 Any fraternal, religious organization or veterans  
18 organization, as set forth in the preceding paragraph  
19 of this act, desiring to operate or conduct the game  
20 of beano within the commonwealth shall make applica-  
21 tion for a license to conduct said game to the com-  
22 missioner of public safety, subject to prior approval of

23 said application by the mayor of the city or the select-  
24 men of the town wherein said game is to be operated.  
25 Licenses may be revoked at the pleasure of the com-  
26 missioner of public safety without hearing and with-  
27 out a right of appeal.

28 No permit shall be granted to operate, hold or con-  
29 duct beano on Sunday, and shall on weekdays be  
30 limited to the hours between seven-thirty post-  
31 meridian and twelve, midnight. Any such fraternal,  
32 religious or veterans organization as described in this  
33 act shall be limited to conducting said beano one  
34 night in each calendar week.

35 The fee for the license to operate, hold or conduct  
36 beano shall be fixed by the commissioner of public  
37 safety, and said fees shall be equally apportioned be-  
38 tween the department of public safety and the city  
39 or town wherein said license is effective.

40 The fraternal, religious or veterans organization, as  
41 described in this act, holding a license to conduct  
42 beano, must operate, manage and control the game by  
43 its own members; the operation of beano by any other  
44 person, persons, firms or corporations under the name  
45 or guise of such fraternal, religious or veterans or-  
46 ganization shall be illegal, and said organization and  
47 operators be subject to a fine of one thousand dollars,  
48 or imprisonment for one year.

49 Any organization, licensed to conduct beano, which  
50 fails to exercise exclusive control and management of  
51 such game, or which organization fails to have one of  
52 its members in good standing in full control and man-  
53 agement of the game at all times during its operation,  
54 shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hun-  
55 dred dollars.

56 A license so granted shall not authorize the giving  
57 of any one prize to exceed twenty-five dollars in value,  
58 either cash or merchandise.

59 No license shall be granted to conduct the game of  
60 beano in any place or establishment wherein alcoholic  
61 beverages are dispensed.

62 The profits of beano, so conducted under this act,  
63 shall be the property of the organization conducting  
64 said game, and said profits shall be used for char-  
65 itable, religious or educational purposes and shall not  
66 be distributed to the members of the organization.

67 Accurate records and books shall at all times be  
68 kept and maintained by each licensee showing the  
69 total amount of all monies deposited by those play-  
70 ing, attending or participating in said games and ex-  
71 penses thereof. The commissioner of public safety  
72 and the approving authority of the city or town  
73 wherein said game is conducted, or their duly au-  
74 thorized agents or representatives, shall at all times  
75 have access to said records and books of any licensee  
76 for the purpose of examining and checking the same.

77 The commissioner of public safety may make such  
78 other rules and regulations for the conduct of the  
79 game of beano as he deems necessary and as are not  
80 set forth in this act.

