

HOUSE No. 511

By Mr. Tynan of Boston, petition of 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-Seven.

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 by
2 inserting after section 22A the following section:—

3 *Section 22B.* Nothing in this chapter shall authorize the
4 prosecution, arrest or conviction of any person for conduct-
5 ing, promoting or playing, or for allowing to be conducted,
6 promoted or played, the game commonly called beano, or
7 substantially the same game under another name in connec-
8 tion with which prizes are offered to be won by chance; pro-
9 vided, the said game of beano is conducted under a license so
10 to do by a fraternal organization having chapters or branches
11 in at least two New England states, or a religious organiza-
12 tion under the control or affiliated with an established church
13 of the commonwealth, or a veterans organization chartered
14 by the congress of the United States.

15 Any fraternal, religious organization or veterans organiza-
16 tion, as set forth in the preceding paragraph of this section,
17 desiring to operate or conduct the game of beano within the
18 commonwealth shall make application for a license to con-
19 duct said game to the commissioner of public safety, subject

20 to prior approval of said application by the mayor of the
21 city or the selectmen of the town wherein said game is to
22 be operated. Licenses may be revoked at the pleasure of the
23 commissioner of public safety without hearing and without a
24 right of appeal.

25 No permit shall be granted to operate, hold or conduct
26 beano on Sunday, and shall on weekdays be limited to the
27 hours between seven-thirty post meridian and twelve, mid-
28 night. Any such fraternal, religious or veterans organiza-
29 tion as described in this section shall be limited to conducting
30 said beano one night in each calendar week.

31 The fee for the license to operate, hold or conduct beano
32 shall be fixed by the commissioner of public safety, and said
33 fees shall be equally apportioned between the department of
34 public safety and the city or town wherein said license is
35 effective.

36 The fraternal, religious or veterans organization, as de-
37 scribed in this section, holding a license to conduct beano,
38 must operate, manage and control the game by its own mem-
39 bers; the operation of beano by any other person, persons,
40 firms or corporations under the name or guise of such fra-
41 ternal, religious or veterans organization shall be illegal, and
42 said organization and operators be subject to a fine of one
43 thousand dollars, or imprisonment for one year.

44 Any organization, licensed to conduct beano, which fails to
45 exercise exclusive control and management of such game, or
46 which organization fails to have one of its members in good
47 standing in full control and management of the game at all
48 times during its operation, shall be punished by a fine of not
49 more than one thousand dollars.

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

53 No license shall be granted to conduct the game of beano
54 in any place or establishment wherein alcoholic beverages are
55 dispensed.

56 The profits of beano, so conducted under this section, shall
57 be the property of the organization conducting said game,
58 and said profits shall be used for charitable, religious or edu-

59 cational purposes and shall not be distributed to the mem-
60 bers of the organization.

61 Accurate records and books shall at all times be kept and
62 maintained by each licensee showing the total amount of all
63 monies deposited by those playing, attending or participat-
64 ing in said games and expenses thereof. The commissioner
65 of public safety and the approving authority of the city or
66 town wherein said game is conducted, or their duly author-
67 ized agents or representatives, shall at all times have access
68 to said records and books of any licensee for the purpose of
69 examining and checking the same.

70 The commissioner of public safety may make such other
71 rules and regulations for the conduct of the game of beano
72 as he deems necessary and as are not set forth in this section.

