

2007 Bill 210

Third Session, 26th Legislature, 56 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 210

GAMING PLANNING ACT

MR. TOUGAS

First Reading

Second Reading

Committee of the Whole

Third Reading

Royal Assent

BILL 210

2007

GAMING PLANNING ACT

(Assented to , 2007)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

Definitions

1 In this Act,

- (a) “charitable organization” includes an organization performing a philanthropic, benevolent, educational, health, humane, religious, cultural, artistic or recreational purpose as long as the purpose is not part of a business;
- (b) “Committee” means the Committee of the Legislative Assembly established under section 2;
- (c) “Minister” means the Minister responsible for the Gaming and Liquor Commission or another member of Executive Council responsible for this Act as determined under section 16 of the *Government Organization Act*.

Establishment of Committee

2(1) At the first sitting of the Assembly following the coming into force of this Act, the Minister or other member of Executive Council shall introduce a motion to establish a committee consisting of 9 members of the Legislative Assembly to investigate and report on the gaming industry in Alberta.

(2) The membership of the Committee shall include 3 members of the official opposition and 1 other member who is not a member of the governing party.

(3) If there are

- (a) an insufficient number of non-government members to fill the 4 positions on the Committee under subsection (2), or
- (b) an insufficient number of non-government members who are willing to fill the 4 positions on the Committee under subsection (2),

the resulting vacant positions on the Committee may be filled by members of the Legislative Assembly who are members of the governing party.

(4) One member of the Committee shall be designated as chair and another member designated as vice-chair, who would assume the duties of the chair in his or her absence.

Functions

3(1) The functions of the Committee are to

- (a) assess the amount of gaming revenue that is allocated to charitable organizations,
- (b) evaluate the role of charitable organizations in gaming activities, including religious and other volunteer organizations,
- (c) evaluate the existing formula for allocating gaming revenue to charitable organizations,
- (d) examine the role of gaming in Alberta in the future with respect to, but not limited to, the number of gaming machines and casinos in the province,
- (e) address the social impact of gaming, including addictions,
- (f) determine the advisability of re-establishing community lottery boards as a means of distributing gaming revenue and evaluate the responsiveness of those boards in assessing community needs, and
- (g) evaluate best management practices for the gaming industry concerning rural, urban and aboriginal communities.

(2) The motion introduced under section 2(1) shall permit the Committee to retain experts and provide sufficient resources for the Committee to commission research related to its functions.

Hearings

4 In performing its functions, the Committee shall be empowered to hold public hearings throughout the province.

Report

5(1) The Committee shall complete its report not later than 1 year after its first meeting.

(2) When completed, the chair of the Committee shall lay the report before the Legislative Assembly if it is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, make the report public by providing copies to every Member of the Legislative Assembly and laying it before the Assembly within 15 days of the commencement of its next sitting.

(3) The Minister shall provide a response to the Committee's report on behalf of the Government not later than 3 months after the report is made public under subsection (2).

