

California Association of Nonprofits
ACTION ALERT
SB 1369 (Gil Cedillo, D-Los Angeles)
Remote Caller Bingo

The California Association of Nonprofits urges you to fax a letter to Senator Gil Cedillo (916-327-8817) TODAY in support of EXPANDING FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NONPROFITS via SB 1369, which allows local governments to pass ordinances allowing nonprofits to take advantage of new technology to conduct charitable bingo games. Here's what SB 1369 does:

Makes Bingo a More Viable Fundraising Option

- SB 1369 authorizes a traditional paper and dauber bingo game with no prize limits, where numbers that are called at one bingo location are electronically transmitted in real-time audio and video format to additional locations that are playing the same game.
- Doubles the prize limit on traditional "Non Remote" Bingo from \$250 to \$500, making the game more appealing to players.
- Adds language to include veterans, school districts and religious organizations' right to use Remote Caller Bingo as a source of revenue.
- Currently there is no minimum requirement for how much a nonprofit must receive from bingo games. As a result, returns to nonprofits are frequently in the single digits.
- SB 1369 would guarantee charities receive at least 43% of bingo revenue. By comparison, some cities report that charities are currently receiving as little as 3% of bingo revenue. (*"Report on Bingo Activities in 2007," City of Oakland, June 24, 2008*).

Creates Oversight and Regulation to Prevent Fraud

- Nonprofits must be in existence for at least three years to participate in Remote Caller Bingo.
- Vendors of Remote Caller technology must be licensed by the California Gambling Control Commission.
- Vendors of Remote Caller technology will be required to have a financial audit at least annually.
- Caller of Remote Caller bingo games must be licensed by California Gambling Control Commission to ensure integrity of high-stakes games.

Prevents Corruptive Influences

- Limits remote caller games to legitimate charities or nonprofits, not organizations whose primary purpose is conducting bingo games for profit.
- Prohibits cash prizes; all prizes must be made by check and appropriate taxes must be withheld.