

SUBJECT: Specifying sales methods for certain sports team charitable raffle tickets

COMMITTEE: Licensing & Administrative Procedures — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — K. King, Walle, Goldman, Harless, Hernandez, T. King, Patterson, S. Thompson

0 nays

3 absent — Herrero, Schaefer, Shaheen

WITNESSES: For — Kaitlin Mauro, Austin FC; Karin Morris, Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation (*Registered, but did not testify*: Bobby Perez, San Antonio Spurs)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Rob Kohler, Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; Jennifer Hughes, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas; Jill Glover, Republican Party of Texas; Tisha Crow, RPT; John Litzler, Texas Baptists Christian Life Commission)

BACKGROUND: Under Occupations Code sec. 2004.004 (a), a professional sports team charitable foundation that meets certain qualifications may conduct a charitable raffle during each preseason, regular season, and postseason game hosted at the home venue or each rodeo event at the rodeo venue of the professional sports team associated with the foundation to provide revenue for the foundation’s charitable purposes.

Some have suggested that allowing professional sports team charitable foundations to sell raffle tickets online could increase fundraising opportunities for these foundations.

DIGEST: HB 1759 would specify that charitable raffle tickets for a professional sports team charitable foundation could be sold at the home venue of the team conducting the raffle or through digital interactive media, including a website or mobile application provided by the team. These raffle tickets

only could be sold to individuals physically located in Texas at the time of the sale.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2023.