



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

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PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

AMUSEMENT TAX ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 74 - Taxation, Article X. Amusement Tax, Section 74-391 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as Follows:

Sec. 74-391. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Amusement means any exhibition, performance, presentation or show for entertainment purposes, including, but not limited to, any theatrical, dramatic, musical or spectacular performance, promotional show, motion picture show, flower, poultry or animal show, animal act, circus, rodeo, athletic contest, sport, game or similar exhibition, such as boxing, wrestling, skating, dancing, swimming, riding on animals or vehicles, baseball, basketball, softball, soccer, football, tennis, golf, hockey, track and field games, bowling, or billiard and pool games. For purposes of this article, the term "amusement" shall not mean any recreational activity offered for public participation or on a membership or other basis, including, but not limited to, carnivals, amusement park rides and games, bowling, billiards and pool games, dancing, tennis, golf, racquetball, swimming, weightlifting, body building or similar activities. For purposes of this article, the term "amusement" shall not mean raffles, as defined in 230 ILCS 15/1 (Raffles Act-definitions), intertrack wagering facilities, as defined in the Illinois Horse Racing Act of 1975 (230 ILCS 5/1 et seq.), or automatic amusement devices.

Automatic amusement devices means any machine which upon the insertion of a coin, slug, token, or similar object may be operated generally by any person for use as a game, entertainment or amusement, whether or not registering a score, and includes, but is not limited to, such devices as jukeboxes, marble machines, pinball machines, video games, movie or video booths or stands and all games, operations or transactions similar thereto under whatever name by which they may be indicated.

Charges paid means the gross amount of consideration paid for the privilege to enter, to witness or to view an amusement, valued in money, whether received in money or otherwise, including cash, credits, property and services, determined without any deduction for costs or expenses whatsoever, but not including charges that are added on account of the tax imposed by this article or on account of any other tax imposed on the charge.

Department and *Department of Revenue* mean the County Department of Revenue.

Live theatrical, live musical or other live cultural performance means a live performance in any of the disciplines which are commonly regarded as part of the fine arts, such as live theater, music, opera, drama, comedy, ballet, modern or traditional dance, and book or poetry readings. The term does not include such amusements as athletic events, races, or performances conducted at adult entertainment cabarets (as defined in Section 14.2.1 of the Cook County Zoning Ordinance).

Maximum capacity means the persons that an auditorium, theater or other space may accommodate as determined by the local fire department or other appropriate governmental agency; ~~provided, however, that maximum capacity shall not exceed the maximum number of tickets or admissions that may be made available for sale to a performance as stated in any binding written agreement relating to that performance.~~ If the number of tickets or admissions actually sold to a performance exceeds the legally permissible limit, then, for purposes of determining the applicable tax, the term "maximum capacity" shall mean such greater number.

Operator means any person who sells or resells a ticket or other license to an amusement for consideration or who, directly or indirectly, receives or collects the charges paid for the sale or resale of a ticket or other license to an amusement. The term includes, but is not limited to, persons engaged in the business of selling or reselling tickets or other licenses to amusement, whether on-line, in person or otherwise.

Owner means:

- (1) With respect to the owner of a place where an amusement is being held, any person who has an ownership or leasehold interest in a building, structure, vehicle, boat, area or other place who presents, conducts or operates an amusement in such place or who allows, by agreement or otherwise, another person to present, conduct or operate an amusement in such place;
- (2) With respect to the owner of an amusement, any person which has an ownership or leasehold interest in such amusement or any person who has a proprietary interest in the amusement so as to entitle such person to all or a portion of the proceeds, after payment of reasonable expenses, from the operation, conduct or presentation of such amusement, excluding proceeds from nonamusement services and from sales of tangible personal property.

Patron means a person who acquires the privilege to enter, to witness or to view an amusement.

Person means any natural individual, firm, society, foundation, institution, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint stock company, joint venture, public or private corporation, receiver, executor, trustee or other representative appointed by the order of any court, or any other entity recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties. The masculine, feminine, singular and plural are included in any circumstance.

Resale means the resale of a ticket or other license to an amusement after the ticket or other license has been sold by the owner, manager or operator of the amusement, or by the owner, manager or operator of the place where the amusement is being held, to an independent and unrelated third party.

Reseller means a person who resells a ticket or other license to an amusement for consideration. The term includes, but is not limited to, ticket brokers and applies whether the ticket is resold by bidding, consignment or otherwise and whether the ticket is resold in person, at a site on the Internet or otherwise.

Ticket means the privilege to enter, to witness or to view an amusement, whether or not expressed in a tangible form.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption