



Minnesota Gambling Control Board

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## **Frequently Asked Questions about Raffles, Lawful Gambling, and Political Campaign Financing**

### **May we conduct a raffle as a fundraiser for our political campaign?**

No. Only nonprofit organizations may conduct raffles.

- Nonprofit organizations which are eligible to conduct raffles are fraternal (not a college or high school fraternity or sorority), religious, veterans, or other nonprofit organization.
- A nonprofit organization must be registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State or have received nonprofit designation from the IRS.

### **When is a drawing considered a raffle?**

The determining factor in whether an activity is a raffle or a drawing is whether the participants must provide consideration (do or give something of value) to enter.

- If consideration is required, it's a raffle.
- If not, it's a drawing.

### **May we request a donation of gambling funds for our political campaign from organizations that conduct raffles or other forms of lawful gambling (pull-tabs, tipboards, bingo, or paddlewheels)?**

No. See next question.

### **Why can't gambling funds be spent for political purposes?**

It's the law. Minnesota Statutes, chapter 349.12, subdivision 25(b) restricts gambling funds from being spent for:

- (1) the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate for public office or for the purpose of promoting or defeating a ballot question; or
- (2) any activity intended to influence an election or a governmental decision-making process.

Therefore, nonprofit organizations which conduct raffles and other forms of lawful gambling may not contribute gambling funds to political campaigns or fundraisers.

### **Questions?**

For addition information, contact the Gambling Control Board at 651-639-4000 or go to [www.gcb.state.mn.us](http://www.gcb.state.mn.us).