



Changes ACGM have been Instrumental in Getting Changed (past and future)

ACGM has been very actively working with the Missouri Gaming Commission and the state Legislators on the below changes. They would not have occurred, if it were not for the leadership and the dedication of your present and past board members.

September 11, 1998, United States District Court issued a ruling in the name of the Association of Charitable Games of Missouri vs. Missouri Gaming Commission, which declared the advertising Restrictions Unconstitutional.

1. You can now advertise your bingo games outside of your bingo halls.
2. A ruling was rendered that Gambling boats could not have bingo
3. Allowed to have more bingos in a Hall each week.
4. Legalized electronic game machines.
5. Went from one (1) hour starting time to three (3) hour starting time to selling paper prior to starting Bingo per organization.
6. Raised pull-tabs from 2300 count to the present amount.
7. For bingo purposes, you may transfer from one VFW Post to another VFW Post without going through the two-year waiting period, provided there was no gap in membership.
8. Succeeded in keeping Indian Gaming out of Missouri.
9. Prevented the Missouri Gaming Commission from finalizing a rule that would have limited organizations to holding only one progressive game.
10. Prevented the Missouri Lottery from being allowed to place video gaming machines in any establishment holding a Missouri liquor license.
11. Allows you to have two (2) bingos per week. Effective 2016
Many of you would not be able to have two bingos a week, if this had not gotten changed.
12. The two-year membership requirement was written into the State's Constitution when bingo was voted in. To get this changed, there had to be a constitution amendment.
 - The amendment had to be voted on and passed by the voters of Missouri.
 - The two-year rule was hurting many of the organizations. Therefore, your board was committed to getting it changed.

- In 1990, the state legislators referred to as Amendment 1, a constitutional amendment, which would have decreased the membership requirement to manage a bingo game from two years to six months. About 53 percent of voters rejected the constitutional amendment.
 - In 2000, the state legislators referred to as Amendment 2, to reduce the membership requirement to manage a bingo game from two years to six months. Over 67 percent rejected Amendment 2.
 - 2008 HB-1813 and SB-988 were introduced and passed by each committee. However, they never got to the floor for a final vote.
 - 2009 HB 620 and 671 were passed by the House and Senate. Governor Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon vetoed them.
 - 2010 HCS/SB 940 were passed by the House and Senate. Governor Jeremiah W. Nixon signed it into law on July 30, 2010.
 - 2016 ACGM Board Members worked with Representative Kevin Engler to get the 2-year rule changed. It passed the House, but it never got to a full vote in the Senate.
 - 2017 Representative Wanda Brown sponsored bills HB-348 and HJR-10. These two bills passed in the House. The bills were sent over to the Senate. The Senate committee passed the bills, but they never got to the floor of the Senate for a full vote.
 - 2018 ACGM Board spoke with Representative Wanda Brown from district 57. She introduced bills HB-1484 and HJR 59, changing the waiting time from two-years to six-months before a new member can work bingo. The House of Representatives passed them and sent over to the Senate Committee Chair Gary Romine, who got it passed in the Senate. It was sent over to Governor Eric Greitens for his signature.
 - Many of the board members made several trips to Jefferson City to speak with Representative Brown and other Legislators to make sure this would get passed by the House and Senate.
 - Governor Eric Greitens signed bill HJR-59 and was then sent over to the Secretary of State office. Voters of Missouri approved Amendment #4 on November 6, 2018, by 52 % of the votes. The constitution now reads members of your organization may work bingo if they have been a member of your organization for a minimum period of 6 months. Your ACGM Board never gave up (11 years) on getting this bill passed.
 - All bingo workers must be approved by the Missouri gaming commission, prior to working your bingo.
13. Games are permitted to be conducted by electronic bingo card monitoring devices that are approved by the commission.
 14. Your ACGM Board was able to gain approval from Missouri Gaming Commission to increase the amount you spend on advertising from 2% to 10% of the total amount expended from bingo receipts.

15. You are allowed two bingos per week per organization.
16. An abbreviated bingo license holder is allowed to conduct up to 15 bingo games annually, rather than 4. This act changes reporting requirements and records retention schedules for licensees.
17. 2015 Discussion with Missouri Gaming Commission about being able to invite more members to the convention, they would review. In 2016, it was announced, we could invite three members to attend. Convention funds could be taken out of your bingo funds. In 2025, increased to four-members allowed to attend the Convention.
18. 2020-21 the ACGM board discussed the problem of slot machines in the state. State legislators have been contacted and informed ACGM was against the unregulated slot machines being in the state.
 - January 2022 a letter was sent out to all bingo organizations asking them and their players to contact their state legislators.
 - Here is the link if you see illegal slot machines and would like to report it.
<https://www.mgc.dps.mo.gov/MOGamingCrime/ReportGamingCrimeForm.aspx>.
Report a Suspected Illegal Gambling Machine
19. 2025 State Legislator Mike McGirl introduced HB-48 & HB-985 pending to get rid of the sales tax paid on the paper products you buy. It never got out of the House.
20. 2026 State Legislator Mike McGirl introduced HB 1761 pending to get rid of the sales tax paid on the paper products you buy.
 - Hardy Billington of District 152 in Butler County and Bill Lucas of District 115 in Jefferson County have signed as co-sponsors. Bill 1761 is waiting to be sent to Committee.
 - Unfortunately, the bill did not get to Committee this year. We will continue to work with our Legislators to get this removed.
 - Contact your Legislators are the following links:
<https://house.mo.gov/>
<https://www.senate.mo.gov/SenateHome>

Revised May 16, 2026