

BELIZE:

LOTTERIES CONTROL (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 2.
3. Insertion of section 6A.
4. Amendment of section 18.
5. Insertion of sections 20A and 20B.
6. Amendment of section 26.



No. 33 of 2023

I assent,

(MRS. DIAN MAHEIA)
Deputy Governor-General

27th July, 2023.

AN ACT to amend the Lotteries Control Act, Chapter 151 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted 28th July, 2023).

BE IT ENACTED, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives and Senate of Belize and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the

Short title.

LOTTERIES CONTROL (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023,

CAP. 151.

and shall be read and construed as one with the Lotteries Control Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Amendment of section 2.

2. The principal Act is amended in section 2 by inserting the following definitions in their proper alphabetical sequence—

“boledo lottery” means the lottery in which the winning number comprises two digits and is drawn or held daily with the exception of Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays;

“government lottery” includes boledo lottery, ordinary lottery and jackpot lottery;

“jackpot lottery” means the lottery in which the winning number comprises four digits and is drawn or held weekly unless otherwise notified by the Committee;

“Minister” means the Minister to whom responsibility for lottery is assigned;

“ordinary lottery” means the lottery in which the winning number comprises the last two digits of the first winning number of the jackpot lottery;

“wholly owned and controlled” means the holding of one hundred percent of the issued share capital of any entity and exercising control of that entity;”.

Insertion of section 6A.

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 6, the following new section—

“6A. Notwithstanding anything in section 6, the Committee may grant an exclusive licence to operate, manage and administer the government lottery to any entity that is wholly owned and controlled by the Government, in the form approved by the Committee.”.

4. The principal Act is amended in section 18, by replacing the words “the provisions” with the words “section 6”.

Amendment of section 18.

5. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new section immediately after section 20 as follows—

Insertion of section 20A and 20B.

“Exemption of entity granted exclusive licence by the Committee.

20A.—(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act or any other law, sections 6, 7, 8 and 10 shall not be applicable to any entity that is granted an exclusive licence by the Committee under section 6A.

(2) Notwithstanding the Income and Business Tax Act or anything contained in any other law, an entity that is granted an exclusive licence by the Committee under section 6A shall be exempt from the requirement under the Income and Business Tax Act to pay business tax.

Acts not applicable.

20B. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act or any other law—

(a) section 26 shall not be applicable to an entity that is granted an exclusive licence by the Committee under section 6A; and

CAP. 15.

(b) section 17(2) of the Finance and Audit Reform Act shall not be applicable to an entity that is granted an exclusive licence by the Committee under section 6A.”.

6. The principal Act is amended in section 26 as follows—

Amendment of section 26.

(a) by replacing the words “the Minister” with the words “the Committee;” and

(b) by inserting the following proviso immediately after the words “managing any lottery” –

CAP. 15.

“provided that where the Contractor is an entity that is granted an exclusive licence by the Committee under section 6A, the Finance and Audit Reform Act shall not apply.”.