



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine Operator
FROM: Ashley Simpson, Director of Revenue
Bridget Lidy, Director of Planning and Urban Design
DATE: May 8, 2019
SUBJECT: **New Coin Operated Amusement Machine Ordinance**

Under State Code O.C.G.A. § 50-27-86, the City of Savannah is permitted to adopt an ordinance to regulate bona fide coin operated amusement machines or Class B machines. After careful consideration, the City will be moving forward in proposing a new ordinance within the next month to assist in regulating this industry.

The ordinance will address the following items:

- Require registration with the City for any business with a bona fide coin operated machine;
- Prohibit registrations from being transferable;
- Require Annual Business Tax Certificate or adding gross annual sales receipts from Class B machines to existing Annual Business Tax Certificate;
- Limit Class B machines to 6 machines per location;
- Allow City to inspect gross receipts for machines;
- Post signage at establishment;
- Outline operating regulations:
 - Keep devices in plain view
 - Inspect machines
 - Require attendant (18+ yrs old)
 - Prohibit loitering
- Allow City to suspend and/or revoke Alcoholic Beverage License for violations to the new ordinance;
- Allow for due process for suspected violators; and
- Provide fines for violators—both businesses and recipients of any illegal payout

Staff will be presenting the new ordinance to City Council on May 23, 2019. Following the adoption of the new ordinance in June, City staff will host drop-in sessions for impacted parties to explain the license process and answer any questions about the new regulation. Registration applications are anticipated to be accepted by the City during the months of August and September with full implementation and enforcement of the ordinance occurring by October 1, 2019.

To see the proposed ordinance, please refer to our website at www.savannahga.gov/gaming. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact city staff by email at gaming@savannahga.gov.