

Ordinance No. 621

AN ORDINANCE to amend and re-enact Section 55, Chapter VII of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, as said Chapter VII is amended by Ordinance No. 521 adopted January 31, 1948 and Ordinance No. 574 adopted March 8, 1949, which said Chapter VII, as amended, relates to annual city license taxes, regulations and penalties, and which said section relates to slot machines.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

1. That Section 55, Chapter VII of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, as said Chapter VII is amended by Ordinance No. 521 adopted January 31, 1948 and Ordinance No. 574 adopted March 8, 1949, be and the same hereby is amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 55. Slot Machines.

(a) Any person having any where in the city a slot machine of any description into which are inserted nickels or coins of larger denominations to dispose of articles of merchandise, or for the purpose of operating devices that operate on the coin-in-the-slot principle, used for gain, except a pay telephone, shall pay for the privilege of having each such slot machine or device, as the case may be, a license tax of \$35.00 per year; except as follows:

On each coin operated musical machine or musical device that operates on the coin-in-the-slot principle there is hereby levied a license tax of \$10.00 per year for each such machine or device.

On each coin operated machine or device used for washing or drying there is hereby levied a license tax of \$10.00 per year for each such machine or device.

On such vending machines as are used solely for the sale of agricultural products, soft drinks, or cigars, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$5.00 per year for each machine.

On such vending machines as are used solely for the sale of candy and operated on the premises of moving picture or other theaters, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$10.00 per year for each machine.

On such vending machines as are used for the sale of candy and operated on the premises of any person conducting any other lawful business other than a theater there is levied a license tax of \$15.00 per year for each machine.

On such vending machines operated on premises for which a state tobacco retailer's license has been obtained and used solely for the sale of cigarettes, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$5.00 per year for each machine plus \$0.29 for each \$100.00 of the gross receipts taken through each such machine.

On such machines used solely for selling shoe strings, chewing gum, peanuts, peanut candy or postage stamps and for weighing machines, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$5.00 per year for each machine.

On miniature pool tables, in the operation of which nickels or coins of larger denominations are used, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$15.00 per year for each such table.

On amusement machines operated by insertion of one cent, there is hereby levied a license tax of \$20.00 per year for each such machine.

On vending machines operated by the insertion of one cent,

there is hereby levied a license tax of \$3.00 per year for each machine.

Nothing in this section shall apply to slot machines used solely for the purpose of selling individual sanitary drinking cups or sanitary drinking cups and natural water, or to machines vending sanitary napkins.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the licensing of any slot machine which is unlawful to have, operate or keep under the provisions of state law.

(b) Every person selling leasing, renting or otherwise furnishing a slot machine or slot machines to others, or placing a slot machine or slot machines with others, shall be deemed to be a slot machine operator.

Every slot machine operator, as herein defined, shall pay for the privilege of doing business in the city an annual license tax of \$1000.00. The license tax imposed by this paragraph is not in lieu of, but in addition to the other license taxes imposed by this section; provided that the slot machine operator's license imposed by this paragraph shall not apply to operators of weighing machines, automatic baggage or parcel checking machines, washing or drying machines, or to vending machines so constructed as to do nothing but vend merchandise, postage stamps, or to machines which provide service only, or to musical machines or devices, or to viewing machines or photomat machines.

(c) On every coin-operated radio installed in a hotel room, hospital room or other place or in booths or on tables or counters in eating places, there is hereby levied an annual license tax of \$3.00 on each radio. If the radio installation is so arranged that more than one radio mechanism is assembled in one cabinet, each such mechanism shall be construed a separate radio under this paragraph.

(d) Every machine licensed under this section or under Section 55-A of this chapter which is operated electrically shall be approved by National Board of Fire Underwriters, and any person causing the operation or permitting the operation of a machine in violation of this paragraph shall be punished as provided in Section 23 of this chapter.

2. That this ordinance shall be published in the Alexandria Gazette and it shall become effective the day after its publication. The clerk of the council shall note in the minutes the time of publication.

FRANKLIN P. BACKUS,
Mayor.

Adopted December 31, 1949.
Published January 2, 1950.