

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 97

By Niceley

A RESOLUTION to amend Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee, to authorize the general assembly to authorize Bingo games, the proceeds of which benefit education.

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee currently authorizes the legislature to authorize a state lottery if the net proceeds of the lottery's revenues are allocated to scholarships, capital outlay projects for K-12 educational facilities, early learning programs, and after school programs; and

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee also authorizes the legislature to authorize annual events for the benefit of certain tax exempt, charitable organizations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that a majority of all the members of each house concurring, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals, that it is proposed that Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee be amended by deleting the following language:

All other forms of lottery not authorized herein are expressly prohibited unless authorized by a two-thirds vote of all members elected to each house of the general assembly for an annual event operated for the benefit of a 501(c)(3) or a 501(c)(19) organization, as defined by the 2000 United States Tax Code, located in this state.

and substituting instead the following:

The legislature may authorize the operation of Bingo games if the net proceeds of the revenues from the Bingo games are expended for the benefit of public and private schools. "Bingo" means a specific game of chance in which participants use an

electronic or manual playing surface divided into horizontal and vertical spaces, each of which is designated by a letter and a number, and prizes are awarded on the basis of the letters and numbers on the playing surface conforming to a predetermined and preannounced configuration of letters and numbers selected at random.

All other forms of lottery not authorized herein are expressly prohibited unless authorized by a two-thirds vote of all members elected to each house of the general assembly for an annual event operated for the benefit of a 501(c)(3) or a 501(c)(19) organization, as defined by the 2000 United States Tax Code, located in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing amendment be referred to the One Hundred Twelfth General Assembly and that this resolution proposing such amendment be published in compliance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Senate is directed to deliver copies of this resolution to the Secretary of State and to the Director of the Office of Legislative Information Services.