**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**A3, R5, H3519**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Rep. Merrill

Document Path: l:\council\bills\ggs\22718zw15.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 9, 3071

Introduced in the House on February 4, 2015

Introduced in the Senate on February 12, 2015

Passed by the General Assembly on March 4, 2015

Governor's Action: No signature required

Summary: Raffles

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 2/4/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 37](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-04-15.docx))

 2/4/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 37](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-04-15.docx))

 2/4/2015 House Recalled from Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-04-15.docx))

 2/11/2015 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-11-15.docx))

 2/11/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑108 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 35](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-11-15.docx))

 2/12/2015 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 30](file:///h%3A%5CHJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-12-15.docx))

 2/12/2015 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-12-15.docx))

 2/12/2015 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-12-15.docx))

 2/25/2015 Senate Recalled from Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C02-25-15.docx))

 3/3/2015 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C03-03-15.docx))

 3/3/2015 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C03-03-15.docx))

 3/4/2015 Senate Read third time and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h%3A%5CSJ%20Archive%5C2015%5C03-04-15.docx))

 3/5/2015 Ratified R 5

 3/5/2015 No signature required

 3/5/2015 Effective date 03/05/15

 3/16/2015 Act No. 3

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3519&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/4/2015](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C3519_20150204.docx)

[2/5/2015](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C3519_20150205.docx)

[2/25/2015](file:///p%3A%5Cpprever%5C2015-16%5C3519_20150225.docx)

(A3, R5, H3519)

**AN ACT TO RATIFY AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 7, ARTICLE XVII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION ON LOTTERIES AND THE EXCEPTIONS TO THIS PROHIBITION, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY AUTHORIZE RAFFLES TO BE OPERATED AND CONDUCTED BY RELIGIOUS, CHARITABLE, OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS, CHARITABLE, OR ELEEMOSYNARY PURPOSES, AND BY GENERAL LAW MUST DEFINE THE TYPE OF ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT RAFFLES, TO PROVIDE THE STANDARDS FOR THEIR CONDUCT AND MANAGEMENT, TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ANY OTHER LAW NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE PROPER FUNCTIONING, HONESTY, INTEGRITY, AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE RAFFLES ARE CONDUCTED.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Constitutional amendment allowing certain raffles ratified**

SECTION 1. The amendment to Article XVII of the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895, prepared under the terms of Joint Resolution 102 of 2013, having been submitted to the qualified electors at the General Election of 2014 as prescribed in Section 1, Article XVI of the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895, and a favorable vote having been received on the amendment, is ratified and declared to be a part of the Constitution so that Section 7 of Article XVII is amended to read:

 “Section 7. Only the State may conduct lotteries, and these lotteries must be conducted in the manner that the General Assembly provides by law. The revenue derived from the lotteries must be used first to pay all operating expenses and prizes for the lotteries. The remaining lottery revenues must be credited to a separate fund in the state treasury styled the ‘Education Lottery Account’, and the earnings on this account must be credited to it. Education Lottery Account proceeds may be used only for educational purposes as the General Assembly provides by law.

 The game of bingo, when conducted by charitable, religious, or fraternal organizations exempt from federal income taxation or when conducted at recognized annual state and county fairs, is not considered a lottery prohibited by this section.

 A raffle, if provided for by general law and conducted by a nonprofit organization for charitable, religious, fraternal, educational, or other eleemosynary purposes, is not a lottery prohibited by this section. The general law must define the type of nonprofit organization authorized to operate and conduct a raffle, provide standards for the operation and conduct of raffles, provide for the use of proceeds for religious, charitable, fraternal, educational, or other eleemosynary purposes, provide penalties for violations, and provide for other laws necessary to ensure the proper functioning, honesty, and integrity of the raffles. If a general law on the conduct and operation of a nonprofit raffle for charitable purposes, including the type of organization allowed to conduct raffles, is not enacted, then the raffle is a lottery prohibited by this section.”

Ratified the 5th day of March, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_