

House Bill 279 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Moraitakis of the 42nd, Post 4 and Stephens of the 123rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to bingo, so as to provide for the use of certain electronic or computer
3 devices in playing bingo; to provide for lease of bingo equipment from organizations not
4 licensed to conduct bingo games; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
8 relating to bingo, is amended in Code Section 16-12-51, relating to definitions, by striking
9 paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

10 "(1) 'Bingo game' or 'nonprofit bingo game' means a game of chance played on cards
11 with numbered squares in which counters or indicators are placed on numbers chosen by
12 lot and won by covering a previously specified number or order of numbered squares. A
13 bingo game may be played manually or with an electronic or computer device that stores
14 the numbers from a player's card or cards, tracks the numbers chosen by lot when such
15 numbers are entered by the player, and notifies the player of a winning combination.
16 Such words, terms, or phrases, as used in this paragraph, shall be strictly construed to
17 include only the series of acts generally defined as bingo and shall exclude all other
18 activity."

19 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

20 Said part is further amended in Code Section 16-12-60, relating to rules and regulations, by
21 striking subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

22 "(b) A licensee shall:

23 (1) Own all the equipment used to conduct a bingo game or lease such equipment ~~from~~
24 ~~an organization that is also licensed to conduct a bingo game;~~

- 1 (2) Display its bingo license conspicuously at the location where the bingo game is
2 conducted;
- 3 (3) Conduct bingo games only at the single location specified in the licensee's
4 application; and
- 5 (4) Not conduct more than one bingo session during any one calendar day, which session
6 shall not exceed five hours."

7 **SECTION 3.**

8 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.