

The House Committee on Regulated Industries offers the following substitute to SB 316:

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 specify that lots shall be chosen by a natural person;
3 to remove the daily permissible prize limitation while preserving the weekly permissible
4 prize limitation; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to bingo, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of Code Section 16-12-51, relating
10 to definitions, as follows:

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

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 Said part is further amended by revising subsection (f) and adding a new subsection to Code
23 Section 16-12-60, relating to rules and regulations relative to bingo, to read as follows:

24 "(f) It shall be unlawful to award prizes in excess of ~~\$1,500.00 in cash or gifts of~~
25 ~~equivalent value during any calendar day~~ or \$3,000.00 in cash or gifts of equivalent value

26 during any calendar week. It shall be unlawful to exceed such ~~limits~~ limitation at any
27 combination of locations operated by a single licensee or such licensee's agents or
28 employees. It shall be unlawful for two or more licensees to pyramid the valuation of prizes
29 in such manner as to exceed the ~~limits~~ limitation contained in this Code section. The term
30 'equivalent value' shall mean the fair market value of the gift on the date the gift is given
31 as the prize in a bingo game."

32 "(j) Nothing in this chapter or any other provision of law shall be construed to allow a
33 bingo game or any game of pure chance to be played by the public for consideration on an
34 electronic machine, device, or computer for cash or anything of value if any number or
35 other item chosen by lot is not chosen by a natural person."

36

SECTION 3.

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