

P U B L I C H E A R I N G

before

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

on

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78,
proposing to amend the Constitution of
the State of New Jersey, to permit
senior citizens organizations and
associations to conduct raffles.

Held:
April 26, 1973
Senate Chamber
State House
Trenton, New Jersey

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Senator Joseph C. Woodcock, Jr. (Chairman)
Senator Barry T. Parker
Senator Peter W. Thomas

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 78

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 6, 1972

By Senators THOMAS, BATE, LAZZARA, HIRKALA, CAFIERO
and PARKER

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing to amend Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey.

1 BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the*
2 *General Assembly concurring):*

1 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the
2 State of New Jersey is hereby agreed to:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

3 Amend Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2, to read as follows:

4 2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the Legislature
5 unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof have been
6 heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes
7 cast by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter be sub-
8 mitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast thereon
9 by, the legally qualified voters of the State voting at a general
10 election, except that, without any such submission or authorization;

11 A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable, educa-
12 tional, religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs,
13 *senior citizen associations or clubs,* volunteer fire companies and
14 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions and
15 control as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Legislature
16 by law, games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling of rights
17 to participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kind of
18 game of chance sometimes known as bingo or lotto, played with
19 cards bearing numbers or other designations, five or more in one
20 line, the holder covering numbers as objects, similarly numbered,
21 are drawn from a receptacle and the game being won by the person
22 who first covers a previously designated arrangement of numbers
23 on such a card, when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance
24 are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

25 public-spirited uses, **and in the case of senior citizen associations*
 26 *or clubs to the support of such organizations,** in any municipality,
 27 in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a
 28 general or special election as the submission thereof shall be pre-
 29 scribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the conduct of
 30 such games of chance therein.

31 B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law,
 32 bona fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal
 33 organizations, civic and service clubs, ***[senior]*** **senior* citizen*
 34 ***[organizations and]*** *associations *or clubs**, volunteer fire com-
 35 panies and first-aid or rescue squads to conduct games of chance of,
 36 and restricted to, the selling of rights to participate, and the award-
 37 ing of prizes, in the specific kinds of games of chance sometimes
 38 known as raffles, conducted by the drawing for prizes or by the
 39 allotment of prizes by chance, when the entire net proceeds of such
 40 games of chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable,
 41 patriotic, religious, or public-spirited uses, **and in the case of*
 42 *senior citizen associations or clubs to the support of such organiza-*
 43 *tions,** in any municipality, in which such law shall be adopted by
 44 a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a general or
 45 special election as the submission thereof shall be prescribed by
 46 law and for the Legislature, from time to time, to restrict and con-
 47 trol, by law, the conduct of such games of chance, and

48 C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the conduct
 49 of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to participate
 50 therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the entire
 51 net proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions,
 52 State aid for education.

1 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally
 2 agreed to, pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution,
 3 it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election
 4 occurring more than 3 months after such final agreement and
 5 shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each
 6 county designated by the President of the Senate and the Speaker
 7 of the General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than
 8 3 months prior to said general election.

1 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be sub-
 2 mitted to the people at said election in the following manner and
 3 form:

4 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at such
 5 general election, the following:

6 1. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,
 7 a legend which shall immediately precede the question, as follows:

- 8 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (×),
 9 plus (+) or check (√) in the square opposite the word "Yes."
 10 If you are opposed thereto make a cross (×), plus (+) or check
 11 (√) in the square opposite the word "No."
 12 2. In every municipality the following question:

	Yes.	Shall the amendment of Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, be approved which authorizes the inclusion of bona fide senior citizen organizations and associations among those organizations presently permitted to conduct games of chance sometimes known as raffles when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or public-spirited uses?
	No.	

	Yes.	SENIOR CITIZEN RAFFLES <i>Shall the Constitution be amended, as agreed to by the Legislature, to authorize senior citizen associations and clubs to conduct raffles?</i>
	No.	

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 78

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED DECEMBER 14, 1972

Amend page 1, section 1, line 12, after "clubs," insert "senior citizen associations or clubs,".

Amend page 1, section 1, line 24, after "uses," insert "and in the case of senior citizen associations or clubs to the support of such organizations,".

Amend page 2, section 1, line 31, omit "senor", and insert "senior"; after "citizen", omit "organizations".

Amend page 2, section 1, line 32, before "associations", omit "and"; after "associations", insert "or clubs".

Amend page 2, section 1, line 39, after "uses", insert "and in the case of senior citizen associations or clubs to the support of such organizations,".

Amend page 3, Question Box, omit in its entirety and insert a new question box as follows:

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	Yes.	SENIOR CITIZEN RAFFLES Shall the Constitution be amended, as agreed to by the Legislature, to authorize senior citizen associations and clubs to conduct raffles?
	No.	

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Edward Carr Member Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission	2

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SENATOR BARRY T. PARKER (Acting Chairman):

Good morning. The Senate Judiciary Committee is going to open a public hearing at this time. The public hearing is on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78, with certain committee amendments, proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, which is being held by the Senate Judiciary Committee by direction of the Senate, in accordance with procedure for consideration of all proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and directed by the Constitution and the Rules of the Senate.

I am Senator Parker. I am a member of the Judiciary Committee. The hearing was scheduled to start at 9:30. Some of the other members are not here.

If there is anyone from the public who wishes to be heard, we would like you to come forward and give your name and we will be more than happy to hear you on this matter.

Is there anyone interested in appearing on the senior citizen proposal, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 78?

Senator Thomas.

S E N A T O R P E T E R W. T H O M A S: Senator Parker, my name is Peter Thomas. I am the prime sponsor of SCR 78.

Very simply, all this does is to amend the existing section of the Constitution to add senior citizen organizations to the group of organizations - veterans, educational, religious, fraternal, civic and other types of service organizations, including volunteer fire companies, first-aid and rescue squads - who presently may apply, if the local municipality grants them the right, for permission to conduct bingo games and also games of chance, the sole reason being to raise money for the furtherance of their particular senior citizen organization. That is all it does. It just adds that entity as another group.

I have had a number of senior citizens groups

come to me and ask that they be included because this is really the only means they have of raising money. The members of these organizations have made such things as afghans and they would like to raffle them off to raise money for the group's work. That is why I introduced this proposed amendment to the Constitution, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: Thank you very much, Senator Thomas.

MR. CARR: A member of the staff of the Legalized Games of Chance was supposed to be here.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: The purpose of the hearing is really for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the Constitution. If you want to testify on the resolution, go right ahead.

MR. CARR: He was supposed to be here. He is the Assistant Director of the Legalized Games of Chance, Mr. Iorio.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: If you are going to testify, would you please identify yourself for the record.

E D W A R D C A R R: Mr. Chairman, my name is Ed Carr. I am a member of the Legalized Games of Chance Commission and also Legislative Chairman of the Holiday City of Berkeley Trust.

We are interested, of course, in getting this bill passed. The main question is: Would our club house facility, our recreational facility, be eligible in this particular bill as it stands? Do we have to apply for a license, for instance, have employees, etc., or can we run it just on an ordinary basis? What is the legality of this particular bill?

SENATOR WOODCOCK: This is not a bill; this is a proposed constitutional amendment that will, if this Legislature acts in time, be placed on the ballot. It will go to the people and at that time they will

determine whether or not the Constitution should be amended to authorize senior citizen associations and clubs to conduct raffles. Then the Legislature, if the people approve of the amendment at the next election, will determine under what conditions and requirements those organizations may conduct raffles. So it will have to come back to the Legislature at that time.

MR. CARR: Well, is this an amendment to the referendum that already was on the ballot last year that the voters already voted on?

SENATOR WOODCOCK: There has never been a vote with respect to senior citizens conducting raffles.

MR. CARR: I thought that the bill on the referendum that passed last year concerned that.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: No.

MR. CARR: I guess I misunderstood.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: If this gets on the ballot, you can campaign vigorously in November.

MR. CARR: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR WOODCOCK: Thank you, Mr. Carr.

Is there anyone else wishing to be heard on Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 78? Seeing no one, I will declare the hearing closed.

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(Hearing Concluded)

JUN 27 1985

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