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# Public Hearing

before

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 77 (1R)

*"Proposes constitutional amendment to permit portion of unclaimed  
State lottery prize money to be used for funeral costs of  
police officers killed in line of duty"*

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**LOCATION:** Committee Room 7  
State House Annex  
Trenton, New Jersey

**DATE:** May 15, 1997  
10:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:**

Senator Joseph L. Bubba, Chairman  
Senator William E. Schluter, Vice-Chairman  
Senator Leonard T. Connors Jr.  
Senator Byron M. Baer  
Senator Richard J. Codey



**ALSO PRESENT:**

Frank J. Parisi  
Office of Legislative Services  
Committee Aide

Ken Raatz  
Assembly Majority  
Committee Aide

Todd Dinsmore  
Assembly Democratic  
Committee Aide

*Hearing Recorded and Transcribed by*  
The Office of Legislative Services, Public Information Office,  
Hearing Unit, State House Annex, CN 068, Trenton, New Jersey

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Chairman

JARD T. CONNORS, JR.  
DON M. BAER  
ARD J. CODEY



**New Jersey State Legislature**  
**SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**  
STATE HOUSE ANNEX  
CN-068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0068

FRANK J. PARISI  
Office of Legislative Services  
Committee Aide  
(609) 292-9106  
(609) 777-2998 Fax

**COMMITTEE NOTICE**

**&**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: SENATOR JOSEPH L. BUBBA, CHAIRMAN

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE MEETING - MAY 15, 1997

*The public may address comments and questions to Frank J. Parisi, Committee Aide, or make bill status and scheduling inquiries to Kathleen J. Lieblang, Secretary, at (609) 292-9106.*

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The Senate State Government Committee will meet on Thursday, May 15, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. in Committee Room 7 (2nd Floor, Room 244), State House Annex, Trenton, New Jersey.

The following bill(s) will be considered:

S-673 Adler/Schluter	Reconstitutes the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards and clarifies its enforcement powers.
S-1274 Inverso/Lesniak	Establishes special license plate for Ukrainian American veterans.
S-1630 Codey/Adler	Implements certain recommendations of the State Commission of Investigation concerning ethical standards applicable to certain State officials and employees; appropriates \$300,000.
S-2015 Inverso/Bubba	Reconstitutes Executive Commission on Ethical Standards as Executive Commission on Conflicts of Interest; provides for public members; clarifies its enforcement powers.
S-2016 Cardinale	Allows Commissioner of Insurance to impose additional fine for violations involving sale of insurance without proper license.

OVER



[First Reprint]  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 77

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 6, 1996

By Senator LaROSSA

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

4  
5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the  
6 General Assembly concurring):

7  
8 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the  
9 State of New Jersey is hereby agreed to:

10  
11 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

12  
13 Amend Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 to read as follows:

14 2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the Legislature  
15 unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof have been  
16 heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast  
17 by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter be submitted to,  
18 and authorized by a majority of the votes cast thereon by, the legally  
19 qualified voters of the State voting at a general election, except that,  
20 without any such submission or authorization:

21 A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable, educational,  
22 religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs, senior  
23 citizen associations or clubs, volunteer fire companies and first-aid or  
24 rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions and control as shall  
25 from time to time be prescribed by the Legislature by law, games of  
26 chance of, and restricted to, the selling of rights to participate, the  
27 awarding of prizes, in the specific kind of game of chance sometimes  
28 known as bingo or lotto, played with cards bearing numbers or other  
29 designations, 5 or more in one line, the holder covering numbers as  
30 objects, similarly numbered, are drawn from a receptacle and the game  
31 being won by the person who first covers a previously designated

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup> Senate SSG committee amendments adopted March 3, 1997.

1 arrangement of numbers on such a card, when the entire net proceeds  
2 of such games of chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable,  
3 patriotic, religious or public-spirited uses, and in the case of senior  
4 citizen associations or clubs to the support of such organizations, in  
5 any municipality, in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting  
6 thereon, at a general or special election as the submission thereof shall  
7 be prescribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the conduct of  
8 such games of chance therein;

9 B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law, bona  
10 fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal  
11 organizations, civic and service clubs, senior citizen associations or  
12 clubs, volunteer fire companies and first-aid or rescue squads to  
13 conduct games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling of rights to  
14 participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kinds of games  
15 of chance sometimes known as raffles, conducted by the drawing for  
16 prizes or by the allotment of prizes by chance, when the entire net  
17 proceeds of such games of chance are to be devoted to educational,  
18 charitable, patriotic, religious or public-spirited uses, and in the case  
19 of senior citizen associations or clubs to the support of such  
20 organizations, in any municipality, in which such law shall be adopted  
21 by a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a general or  
22 special election as the submission thereof shall be prescribed by law  
23 and for the Legislature, from time to time, to restrict and control, by  
24 law, the conduct of such games of chance;

25 C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature: (1) to authorize the  
26 conduct of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to  
27 participate therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the  
28 entire net proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions[,]  
29 and State aid for education, and (2) to authorize the use of a portion  
30 of any prize money remaining unclaimed one year after a drawing to  
31 fund part or all of the funeral costs of police officers killed in the line  
32 of duty 'whenever such officers are not covered, in whole or in part,  
33 by some type of life insurance, other than credit life insurance' ; [and]

34 D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law the  
35 establishment and operation, under regulation and control by the State,  
36 of gambling houses or casinos within the boundaries, as heretofore  
37 established, of the city of Atlantic City, county of Atlantic, and to  
38 license and tax such operations and equipment used in connection  
39 therewith. Any law authorizing the establishment and operation of  
40 such gambling establishments shall provide for the State revenues  
41 derived therefrom to be applied solely for the purpose of providing  
42 funding for reductions in property taxes, rental, telephone, gas,  
43 electric, and municipal utilities charges of[, ] eligible senior citizens  
44 and disabled residents of the State, and for additional or expanded  
45 health services or benefits or transportation services or benefits to  
46 eligible senior citizens and disabled residents, in accordance with such

1 formulae as the Legislature shall by law provide. The type and number  
2 of such casinos or gambling houses and of the gambling games which  
3 may be conducted in any such establishment shall be determined by or  
4 pursuant to the terms of the law authorizing the establishment and  
5 operation thereof~~[.]~~; and

6 E. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law, (1) the  
7 simultaneous transmission by picture of running and harness horse  
8 races conducted at racetracks located within or outside of this State,  
9 or both, to gambling houses or casinos in the city of Atlantic City and  
10 (2) wagering at those gambling establishments on the results of those  
11 races. The State's share of revenues derived therefrom shall be applied  
12 for services to benefit eligible senior citizens as shall be provided by  
13 law.

14 (cf: Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 amended effective  
15 December 6, 1990)

16  
17 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
18 agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it  
19 shall be submitted to the people at the next general election occurring  
20 more than three months after the final agreement and shall be  
21 published at least once in at least one newspaper of each county  
22 designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General  
23 Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three months prior  
24 to the general election.

25  
26 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted  
27 to the people at that election in the following manner and form:

28 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the  
29 general election, the following:

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

32 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus  
33 (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word 'Yes.' If you are  
34 opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (✓) in the square  
35 opposite the word 'No.'

36 In every municipality the following question:

1		CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
2		PERMITTING PORTION OF
3		UNCLAIMED STATE LOTTERY PRIZE
4		MONEY TO BE USED FOR FUNERAL
5		COSTS OF <u>'CERTAIN'</u> POLICE
6		OFFICERS KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY
7		Shall the amendment to Article IV, Section
8		VII, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, agreed
9		to by the Legislature, providing that a portion
10		of State lottery prize money remaining
11		unclaimed one year after a drawing may be
12	YES	used to fund part or all of the funeral costs of
13		police officers killed in the line of duty
14		<u>'whenever such officers are not covered, in</u>
15		<u>whole or in part, by some type of life</u>
16		<u>insurance, other than credit life insurance'</u> , be
17		adopted?
18		INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT
19		
20		This amendment would allow the Legislature
21		to use a portion of any unclaimed State lottery
22		prize money to fund part or all of the funeral
23		costs of police officers killed in the line of
24		duty <u>'whenever such officers are not covered,</u>
25		<u>in whole or in part, by some type of life</u>
26		<u>insurance, other than credit life insurance'</u> .
27	NO	Currently, unclaimed lottery prize money may
28		be used only for State institutions and State
29		aid for education, for augmenting prize money
30		and for administrative expenses in operating
31		the lottery. A prize is unclaimed if the winner
32		has not asked for it within one year after a
33		drawing.

34

35

36

37

38 Proposes constitutional amendment to permit portion of unclaimed

39 State lottery prize money to be used for funeral costs of certain police

40 officers killed in line of duty when such officers have no life insurance.



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**SENATOR JOSEPH L. BUBBA (Chairman):** That ends the regular meeting of the Senate State Government Committee. Now we're going to have a hearing -- a public hearing pursuant to Rule No. 8B of the Joint Rules of the Senate and General Assembly on SCR No. 77, which proposes a constitutional amendment to permit portions of unclaimed State lottery prize money to be issued for funeral costs of police officers killed in the line of duty.

Is there anyone here to speak on this? Come forward.

Do you want to find Senator LaRossa? Do you know where Senator LaRossa is? (directed to staff)

Senator LaRossa, do you want to speak first, or do you want to allow--

**SENATOR DICK LaROSSA:** No, I think this is fine.

**SENATOR BUBBA:** You want to be courteous and allow our guest to speak first?

**SENATOR LaROSSA:** Absolutely.

**GARY GUEAR:** Thank you.

Good morning. My name is Gary Guear. I'm a detective with the Trenton Police Department. I'm here today representing the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, which humbly requests your consideration to seek an amendment to the New Jersey Constitution, authorizing the use of a portion of any lottery money remaining unclaimed one year after a drawing to fund part or all of the funeral costs of police officers killed in the line of duty.

When a police officer is killed during the performance of his or her duty, it's front page news and the big story on all televised news broadcasts.

The family's sorrow is shared by everyone, particularly by those in the law enforcement community. In a matter of days, the fallen officer is laid to rest amid all the honor and tribute bestowed a hero, by the hundreds of fellow officers who come from many surrounding states.

God forbid, should one more police officer ever lose his or her life again in the line of duty, but in facing reality, we all know that tragedy will someday strike again in New Jersey despite any amount of training, experience, or protective gear.

My pleas is to bring a speck of financial assistance to the family of a police officer who has paid the supreme sacrifice. A funeral for a fallen officer is always large in capacity and should not cause any undue financial burden to the family.

I am confident that you will lend your support to this very important piece of legislation, demonstrating that our elected officials stand behind the men and women who are out there 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, ensuring that we maintain the highest quality of life for everyone in our great State.

SENATOR BUBBA: Thank you.

Senator LaRossa.

SENATOR LaROSSA: I guess in a word, ditto.

SENATOR BUBBA: Are we expected to get this out today?

MR. PARISI (Committee aide): No, this is just the hearing.

SENATOR BUBBA: All right.

Is there anyone else here to speak on the issue? (no response)

I'll entertain a motion to close the hearing.

SENATOR CODEY: So moved.

SENATOR BUBBA: Second?

SENATOR BAER: Second.

SENATOR BUBBA: Okay.

**(HEARING CONCLUDED)**

