

Proposal To Authorize Raffles; Sub. for SCR 1618

Sub. for SCR 1618 submits a state constitutional amendment for consideration at the next general election in November 2014. The amendment, if approved by voters, will allow charitable raffles by certain nonprofit organizations.

The proposal will amend Section 3 of Article 15 in the *Kansas Constitution* to permit “raffles” if authorized by the Legislature. The amendment will allow the Legislature to authorize the licensing, conduct, and regulation of charitable raffles by nonprofit, religious, charitable, fraternal, educational, or veterans organizations.

“Raffle” is defined in the proposed amendment to mean a game of chance in which each participant buys a ticket or tickets from one of the above mentioned organizations, with each ticket providing an equal chance to win a prize and the winner being determined by a random drawing. The following limitations also are included in the constitutional amendment:

- An organization shall not be able to use an electronic gaming or vending machine to sell tickets or conduct raffles;
- An organization shall not contract with a professional raffle or other lottery vendor for the management, operation, or conduct of any raffle; and
- Raffles shall be licensed and regulated by the Office of Charitable Gaming, in the Department of Revenue, or by a successor agency.

(Note: Section 3 of Article 15 of the *Kansas Constitution* prohibits lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets. Voters previously approved three amendments to Section 3, allowing exceptions for bingo (Section 3a. in 1974), parimutuel wagering (Section 3b. in 1986), and a state-owned and -operated lottery (Section 3c. in 1986). This proposal adds a fourth exception in the amendment for raffles, if approved by the voters.)