

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas  
Constitution.**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

*As Engrossed: H2/3/05*

HJR 1003

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By: Representatives Borhauer, Walters, Petrus, Saunders, Cook, Davis, Blair, *Jackson, Mahony*

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

FOR A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS  
CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW BINGO TO BE CONDUCTED BY  
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS; TO AUTHORIZE THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT LAW CONCERNING THE  
LICENSURE, REGULATION, OR TAXATION OF BINGO.

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**Subtitle**

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PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO  
ALLOW BINGO TO BE CONDUCTED BY  
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS AND TO  
AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT  
LAW REGULATING AND TAXING CHARITABLE  
BINGO.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL  
MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of  
the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state  
for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives  
and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election,  
adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of  
the State of Arkansas, to wit:

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SECTION 1. (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Authorized bingo organization" means a nonprofit tax-exempt



1 religious, educational, veterans, fraternal, service, civic, medical,  
2 volunteer rescue service, volunteer firefighters organization, or volunteer  
3 police organization that has been in continuing existence as a nonprofit tax-  
4 exempt organization in this state for a period of not less than five (5)  
5 years immediately prior to conducting the game of bingo; and

6 (2)(A) "Game of bingo" means a single game of the activity  
7 commonly known as "bingo" in which the participants pay a sum of money for  
8 the use of one (1) or more bingo cards.

9 (B) "Game of bingo" shall include only games in which the  
10 winner receives a preannounced, fixed-dollar prize and in which the winner is  
11 determined by the matching of letters and numbers on a bingo card imprinted  
12 with at least twenty-four (24) numbers, with letters and numbers appearing on  
13 objects randomly drawn and announced by a caller, in contemporaneous  
14 competition among all players in the game.

15 (b)(1) The game of bingo conducted by an authorized bingo organization  
16 shall not be a lottery prohibited by Section 14 of Article 19 of the Arkansas  
17 Constitution if all net receipts over and above the actual cost of conducting  
18 the game are used only for charitable, religious, or philanthropic purposes.

19 (2) No receipts shall be used to compensate in any manner any  
20 person who works for or is in any way affiliated with the authorized bingo  
21 organization.

22 (c) The General Assembly shall provide by law for the licensure and  
23 regulation of authorized bingo organizations to conduct the game of bingo and  
24 may levy taxes on the activity.

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26 SECTION 2. This amendment becomes effective on January 1, 2007.

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28 */s/ Borhauer, et al*