COMMITTEE REPORT

April 2, 2014

**S. 779**

Introduced by Senator Davis

S. Printed 4/2/14--S. [SEC 4/3/14 3:45 PM]

Read the first time June 5, 2013.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Bill (S. 779) to amend Chapter 19, Title 16 of the 1976 Code, relating to gambling and lotteries, by adding Section 16-19-60, to provide that certain social card, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting the following:

/ SECTION 1. Chapter 19, Title 16 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 16‑19‑60. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, it is not unlawful for persons who are members of a club or other social organization to gather for the purpose of engaging in games of tiles, cards, or dice, including, but not limited to, canasta, mahjong, and bridge, where the games are played among members in a private residence, home, or community clubhouse or similar structure; no mechanical or electronic devices or machines of any kind, slot machines, pull tabs, punch boards, pull boards, or video games, devices, or machines of any kind are used or incorporated in any way; no person or entity of any kind receives any direct or indirect economic, financial, or monetary benefit of any kind; the host of the game or owner or lessee of the location in which the games are played does not receive any direct or indirect economic, financial, or monetary benefit of any kind; there is no betting, wagering, or gambling of any kind; a bona fide social relationship among the participants exists; and, except for the advantage of skill or luck, the risks of losing or winning are the same for all parties.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

LUKE A. RANKIN for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

State Law Enforcement Division

Judicial Department

The departments indicate that this bill will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State, nor on federal and/or other funds.

*Approved By:*

Brenda Hart

Office of State Budget

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, TITLE 16 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO GAMBLING AND LOTTERIES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-19-60, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN SOCIAL CARD AND DICE GAMES ARE NOT UNLAWFUL.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 19, Title 16 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 16-19-60. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, it is not unlawful for persons who are members of a club or other social organization to gather for the purpose of engaging in games of cards or dice, including, but not limited to, canasta, mahjong, and bridge, where the games are played among members in a private residence, home, or community clubhouse or similar structure and no mechanical or electronic devices or machines, slot machines, or video games of chance are used or incorporated into the games, no person receives any economic benefit other than personal winnings, the host of the game or owner or lessee of the location in which the games are played does not receive a percentage of the winnings, a bona fide social relationship among the participants exists, and, except for the advantage of skill or luck, the risks of losing or winning are the same for all parties.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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