

HOUSE BILL 424: Gaming Laws/Allow Certain Social Games.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee: House Judiciary 1. If favorable, re-refer to Date: April 1, 2025

Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

Introduced by: Reps. Willis, Johnson, Hawkins, Tyson **Prepared by:** Robert Ryan

Analysis of: PCS to First Edition Committee Co-Counsel

H424-CSCE-4

OVERVIEW: The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for House Bill 424 would create a new exception to the prohibition on gambling, to allow engaging in board games or card games subject to certain conditions.

CURRENT LAW: Article 37 of Chapter 14 of the General Statues provides laws regulating lotteries, gaming, bingo, and raffles. G.S. 14-292, Gambling, provides that with certain exceptions: "any person or organization that operates any game of chance or any person who plays at or bets on any game of chance at which any money, property or other thing of value is bet, whether the same be in stake or not, shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor."

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would create a new exception to the prohibition on gambling to allow engaging in board games or card games where money or other thing of value was exchanged, if the games are played in a private residence, home, or community clubhouse and the following conductions are satisfied:

- No mechanical or electronic devices are used.
- No person receives any direct or indirect financial benefit other than personal winnings.
- The host of the game does not receive any direct or indirect financial benefit other than personal winnings.
- The risks of losing or winning are the same for all parties.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2025, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

Kara McCraw Director



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