



**This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.**

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

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary 1. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 15, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Willis, Johnson, Hawkins, Tyson	Prepared by:	Robert Ryan
Analysis of:	PCS to Second Edition H424-CSCE-9		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *The 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. The PCS would also modify the law related to the number of times a qualified facility can host a "game night" to allow for more flexibility.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1

Article 37 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes 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."

Section 1 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 conditions 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.
- The games are played no more than one day in any seven-day period at any private residence, home, or community clubhouse.

Section 2

Part 4 of Article 37 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes authorizes an "exempt organization" to host a "game night" at a "qualified facility" subject to certain conditions. An exempt organization is exempt from taxation under certain sections of the IRS Code. Game night means a specific event at which games of chance are played for the purpose of raising funds for the exempt organization. A qualified facility is a facility that holds an ABC permit. G.S. 14-309.28 currently limits a facility to hosting "game nights" to two game nights in a calendar month.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

House 424 PCS

Page 2

Section 2 would modify G.S. 14-309.28 by changing the limitation on the number of game nights a facility can host from twice a month to 24 times a year.

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