

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 1916

SPONSOR: Senator Sebesta

SUBJECT: Elderly/Disabled Adults/Bingo

DATE: April 6, 2001                      REVISED: 04/10/01                      \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Cooper</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>Fav/1 amendment</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>CJ</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This bill authorizes bingo games at nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day care centers, intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled, multi-service senior centers, continuing care facilities, and government-financed or government-insured housing for the elderly.

This bill creates an unspecified section of Florida Law.

**II. Present Situation:**

Section 849.0931, F.S., provides rules and regulations regarding bingo. The section provides governing definitions and describes the types of organizations that are authorized to conduct bingo. Certain charitable, nonprofit, and veterans' organizations are authorized to conduct bingo. Likewise, condominium associations, cooperative associations, homeowners' associations, mobile homeowners' associations, and a group of residents of a mobile home park or recreational vehicle park, are authorized to conduct bingo.

Charitable, nonprofit and veterans' organizations may use bingo proceeds that remain after prizes have been awarded to support and fund their various charitable endeavors. The residential groups that are authorized to conduct bingo games may use net proceeds to make donations to charitable, tax-exempt, organizations. These groups also have the option of carrying over the proceeds for use as prize money in subsequent games under certain conditions.

Strictly interpreted, the statute does not allow nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day care centers, intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled persons, multi-service

senior centers, continuing care facilities, and government-financed or government insured housing for the elderly to conduct bingo games for their residents.

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

**Section 1** creates an unspecified section of Florida Law to allow the following organizations to conduct bingo games: nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day care centers, intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled persons, multi-service senior centers, continuing care facilities, and government-financed or government insured housing for the elderly.

The games must be held in the facility and played only by residents, clients, or their guests. The games must be conducted by residents, staff, or volunteers of the facility, and neither the facility nor any third party may derive financial benefit from the games. Nonresidents are prohibited from claiming prizes. Any net proceeds remaining after paying prizes may be donated by residents or clients to projects or activities of their choice.

Any county or municipality that regulates bingo must exempt the games conducted pursuant to this section from regulation and fees.

**Section 2** provides that the act will take effect July 1, 2001.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Subsection (b) of section 18 of Article VII, Florida Constitution requires a two-thirds vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature in order to enact a general law reducing the authority that municipalities and counties had on February 1, 1989, to raise revenues in the aggregate. However, laws with an insignificant fiscal impact (\$1.6 million) are exempt from this requirement.

By exempting the organizations and facilities from any fees levied by counties and municipalities that regulate bingo, the bill could reduce the municipalities' and counties revenues, thereby reducing their revenue-raising authority. This bill will exempt approximately 4,000 facilities from licensing by local governments. Pinellas County imposes a license fee of \$150 - \$200 on these facilities in its jurisdiction. If a \$200 fee were imposed on the 4,000 facilities affected by this bill, it would generate \$800,000.

Therefore, the bill is exempted because of its insignificant fiscal impact and does not require a two-thirds vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

**C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:****A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

This bill will exempt approximately 4,000 facilities from licensing by local governments. While it appears that only one county currently regulates bingo games in these types of facilities, the current revenue generating authority of all local governments will be restricted. Pinellas County imposes a license fee of \$150 - \$200 on these facilities. If a \$200 fee were imposed on the 4,000 facilities affected by this bill, it would generate \$800,000.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

#1 by Comprehensive Planning, Local and Military Affairs

This amendment corrects a technical deficiency in the bill by allowing “clients” and “guests” from similar facilities to claim prizes from bingo games.