**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 4129**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Brewer, Guffey, M.M. Smith, Hartnett, Teeple, B.L. Cox, Sessions, Mitchell, Stavrinakis, Pedalino, Brittain, Hayes, Guest, Luck, Atkinson, Bamberg and Robbins

Companion/Similar bill(s): 362

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Introduced in the House on March 5, 2025

Introduced in the Senate on May 8, 2025

Last Amended on May 7, 2025

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Gambling, exceptions

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 3/5/2025 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 5)

 3/5/2025 House Referred to Committee on **Ways and Means** (House Journal‑page 5)

 3/6/2025 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bamberg

 4/23/2025 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Robbins

 5/1/2025 House Committee report: Favorable **Ways and Means** (House Journal‑page 125)

 5/7/2025 House Amended (House Journal‑page 16)

 5/7/2025 House Read second time (House Journal‑page 16)

 5/7/2025 House Roll call Yeas-99 Nays-9 (House Journal‑page 17)

 5/8/2025 House Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal‑page 81)

 5/8/2025 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal‑page 6)

 5/8/2025 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** (Senate Journal‑page 6)

 5/8/2025 Scrivener's error corrected

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4129&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[03/05/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4129_20250305.docx)

[05/01/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4129_20250501.docx)

[05/07/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4129_20250507.docx)

[05/08/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4129_20250508.docx)

Amended

May 7, 2025

H. 4129

Introduced by Reps. Brewer, Guffey, M. M. Smith, Hartnett, Teeple, B. L. Cox, Sessions, Mitchell, Stavrinakis, Pedalino, Brittain, Hayes, Guest, Luck, Atkinson, Bamberg and Robbins

S. Printed 5/7/25--H. [SEC 5/8/2025 1:08 PM]

Read the first time March 5, 2025

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A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 16‑19‑5 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO PAYS A FEE TO PLAY A GAME IN WHICH SKILL PREDOMINATES OVER CHANCE AND RECEIVES A PRIZE PROPORTIONATE TO HOW SKILLFULLY HE PLAYED IS NOT GAMBLING.

 Amend Title To Conform

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

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

 Section 16‑19‑5. (A) For the purposes of this chapter, a person who pays a fee to participate in a game, activity, or event in which skill predominates over chance including, but not limited to, a Professional Golf Association (PGA) Tournament; a National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) event; a billfishing or bass fishing tournament; an Association of Tennis Professional Tour event or Women’s Tennis Association Tour event; a turkey shoot; or any non‑card‑based predominant skill game, activity, or event, and receives a thing of value proportionate to how skillfully he plays in the game, activity, or event is not gambling.

 (B) Nothing in this section should be misinterpreted as permitting any physical or electronic card-based game when skill predominates the outcome of the game, activity, or event and is determined primarily by the participant’s mental or physical abilities, strategy, or learned capacity. If the game, activity, or event involves a material element of chance by which the outcome is determined through randomness, defeating the participants skill, such as “turn of a card” or “roll of the dice” this is gambling and therefore illegal.

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

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