HB 893 2005

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to drawings by chance; amending s. 849.0935, F.S.; redefining the term "organization" to include homeowners' associations, certain other associations, and local chambers of commerce among those allowed to conduct drawings by chance; defining the term "charitable purpose" as applied to permissible uses of the proceeds from such drawings; providing restrictions upon the construction of s. 849.09, F.S., relating to prohibitions against lotteries and exceptions from such prohibitions; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 849.0935, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (1) of said section, to read:

849.0935 Charitable, nonprofit organizations; drawings by chance; required disclosures; unlawful acts and practices; penalties.--

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(b) "Organization" means:

1. An organization that which is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), or (19), and that which has a current determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service, and its bona fide members or officers;.

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2. A homeowners' association or association as defined in chapter 718, chapter 719, chapter 720, or chapter 723, if the proceeds from the drawing are used for a charitable purpose or a community benefit; or

- 3. A local chamber of commerce, if the proceeds from the drawing are used for a charitable purpose or a community benefit.
- (c) "Charitable purpose" means any benevolent, philanthropic, patriotic, educational, humane, scientific, artistic, public health, social welfare or advocacy, environmental conservation, civic, or other eleemosynary objective.
- (2)(a) Section The provisions of s. 849.09 may shall not be construed to prohibit an organization qualified under 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), or (19) from conducting drawings by chance pursuant to the authority granted by this section, provided the organization has complied with all applicable provisions of chapter 496.
- (b) Section 849.09 may not be construed to prohibit a homeowners' association or a local chamber of commerce from conducting drawings by chance pursuant to the authority granted under this section.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.