

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the creation of Section 28 of Article X of the State Constitution authorizing gaming in counties that approve gaming by a countywide referendum; providing requirements for gaming facilities; providing for regulation and taxation by general law; providing for use of revenues.

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

That the following creation of Section 28 of Article X of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE X

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 28. Local option gaming.--

(a) The governing body of any county may hold a countywide referendum on whether to authorize full gaming within that county. If the voters of a county approve the referendum question by majority vote, full gaming is authorized and may be conducted within that county. If the voters of such county do not approve the referendum question by majority vote, full gaming under this section is not authorized, and the question shall not be presented in another referendum in that county for at least two years. As used in this subsection, the term "full gaming" means all forms of gaming and includes electronic or

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29 electromechanical facsimiles of any game of chance or slot
 30 machine of any kind and any banking card games such as baccarat,
 31 chemin de fer, and blackjack.

32 (b) Gaming activities authorized pursuant to this section
 33 shall be conducted in facilities within the infrastructure of a
 34 hotel or casino that has at least 250 rooms for overnight
 35 patrons.

36 (c) The legislature shall provide for the regulation and
 37 taxation of gaming facilities and activities by general law and
 38 may impose fees to pay the costs of such regulation.

39 (d) Fifty percent of the tax revenue from gaming
 40 facilities and activities authorized pursuant to this section
 41 shall be deposited into a public sector trust fund. Ninety
 42 percent of the moneys in that trust fund must be used to offset
 43 residential homestead property taxes, eight percent must be used
 44 for the creation of affordable housing, and the remaining two
 45 percent must be used for the prevention and treatment of
 46 compulsive gambling and related disorders.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 48 placed on the ballot:

49 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

50 ARTICLE X, SECTION 28

51 LOCAL OPTION GAMING.--Proposing an amendment to the State
 52 Constitution to allow the governing body of any county to hold a
 53 countywide referendum on whether to authorize full gaming within
 54 that county. The amendment requires gaming facilities to be
 55 located within a hotel or casino that has at least 250 rooms for
 56 overnight patrons, provides for regulation and taxation of

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57 gaming by general law, and requires that 50 percent of the tax
58 revenue be deposited into a public sector trust fund, with 90
59 percent of the moneys in that trust fund to be used to offset
60 residential homestead property taxes, 8 percent to be used for
61 the creation of affordable housing, and the remaining 2 percent
62 to be used for the prevention and treatment of compulsive
63 gambling and related disorders.