

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 45**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO

District 28 (Essex)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblymen Mukherji, Schaer, Assemblywomen Jimenez, Vainieri
Huttle, Jasey, Assemblyman Giblin, Assemblywomen Chaparro, Tucker,
Assemblymen Johnson, McKeon, Assemblywoman Pintor Marin,
Assemblymen DiMaio and Dancer**

SYNOPSIS

Expresses Legislature's intent in approving proposed amendment to State Constitution to authorize casino gambling in northern part of State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** expressing the intent of the
 2 Legislature in approving a proposed amendment to the
 3 Constitution of the State of New Jersey to authorize casino
 4 gambling in the northern part of the State.

5
 6 **WHEREAS**, The Senate and General Assembly approved Senate
 7 Concurrent Resolution No. 1 of 2016, proposing to amend the
 8 Constitution of the State of New Jersey to authorize casino
 9 gambling in the northern part of the State; and

10 **WHEREAS**, The concurrent resolution to approve the establishment of
 11 casinos in the northern part of the State will be submitted to the
 12 voters for their approval at the November 2016 general election;
 13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, While the resolution provides specific purposes for the
 15 establishment of casinos in northern New Jersey, including the
 16 recovery of Atlantic City, funding for counties and senior citizen
 17 programs in this State, and funding for programs designed to aid
 18 and encourage the thoroughbred and standardbred industries, there
 19 is a need for the Legislature to further communicate to the public its
 20 legislative intent; and

21 **WHEREAS**, A more explicit specification of the Legislature's intent
 22 will help to educate the public about the specific fiscal and
 23 economic development purposes for which the casino constitutional
 24 amendment was placed on the ballot for their consideration; and

25 **WHEREAS**, A clearer statement of the Legislature's intent will also
 26 establish a basic framework for the Legislature to follow in
 27 developing the implementing legislation to establish casinos in
 28 northern New Jersey, if approved by the voters; now, therefore,

29
 30 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
 31 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

32
 33 1. The Legislature of the State of New Jersey hereby expresses
 34 its intent in approving Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1 of 2016,
 35 which proposes to amend the Constitution of the State of New
 36 Jersey to authorize casino gambling in the northern part of the State.
 37 The Legislature's intent is hereby stated as follows:

38 a. With regard to the distribution of State funds derived from
 39 casino gambling in the northern part of the State, the intent of the
 40 Legislature is to provide funding for the recovery of Atlantic City
 41 through programs for job placement for displaced workers from
 42 previously closed casino properties in Atlantic City; for continued
 43 promotional support for Atlantic City as a destination resort; for
 44 grants and loans to promote non-gaming development, attractions,
 45 and destination programming; for programs designed to aid and
 46 encourage the thoroughbred and standardbred industries; and for
 47 infrastructure and transportation improvements and airport
 48 enhancements. The intent of the Legislature is also to provide

1 funding to counties for public spaces and transportation and
2 infrastructure improvements, with the funding allocations based on
3 population and competitive criteria. The intent of the Legislature is
4 also to provide funding to benefit senior citizens in this State
5 through property tax reductions and vulnerable populations through
6 programs administered by the counties.

7 b. With regard to the selection of the location for casino
8 gambling in the northern part of the State, the intent of the
9 Legislature is for the location to be served by appropriate
10 infrastructure and that casino gambling should be located to
11 minimize the impacts on residents and neighbors of the new facility.

12 c. With regard to the selection of the licensed operators of
13 casino gambling in the northern part of the State, the intent of the
14 Legislature to create an application process and ranking system that
15 results in the selection of an operator who provides a business plan
16 that is financially, administratively, and culturally the most
17 advantageous, because it includes permanent job development,
18 primary and secondary economic activity generation, and additional
19 items for innovative complementary uses within the required
20 minimum construction expenditure, and that a panel of qualified
21 New Jersey residents provide input on the selection.

22 d. With regard to the tax rate to be assessed on revenues
23 derived from casino gambling in the northern part of the State, the
24 intent of the Legislature is to establish a rate considerably higher
25 than the tax rate currently applied to revenues derived from casino
26 gambling in Atlantic City, to be tiered according to the amount of
27 the investment made for each casino development.

28 e. With regard to the administration of the programs to be
29 funded from State revenues derived from casino gambling in the
30 northern part of the State, the intent of the Legislature is that
31 existing State agencies be identified to administer the programs,
32 existing agencies should be streamlined or consolidated to create
33 efficient professional management structures, require performance
34 standards set forth in law for the receipt of funding, and require
35 recipients of funding to meet performance standards.

36
37 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
38 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
39 Secretary of the Senate to Governor Chris Christie, the Chair of the
40 Casino Control Commission, and the Director of the Division of
41 Gaming Enforcement in the Department of Law and Public Safety.

42 43 44 STATEMENT

45
46 This concurrent resolution expresses the Legislature's intent in
47 approving Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1 of 2016, which
48 proposes to amend the State Constitution to authorize casino

1 gambling in the northern part of the State and is to be considered by
2 the voters at the November 2016 election. Explicit statements of
3 legislative intent are provided with regard to the tax rate to be
4 assessed on the revenue from casino gambling in the northern part
5 of the State; the distribution of State funds derived from casino
6 gambling in the northern part of the State; the selection of the
7 location for casino gambling; the selection of the casino operators
8 to be licensed; and the administration of the programs to be funded
9 from State revenues derived from casino gambling in the northern
10 part of the State.