

By: Guerra

H.J.R. No. 102

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to authorize the operation of
2 casino gaming in certain state coastal areas to provide additional
3 money for property tax relief; providing for occupational licensing
4 and certification; authorizing fees; limiting certain taxes and
5 fees.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Section 47(a), Article III, Texas Constitution,
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Legislature shall pass laws prohibiting lotteries
10 and gift enterprises in this State other than those authorized by
11 Subsections (b), (d), (d-1), and (e) of this section and by Section
12 47a of this article.

13 SECTION 2. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by
14 adding Section 47a to read as follows:

15 Sec. 47a. (a) The legislature by general law in accordance
16 with this section shall authorize the operation of casino gaming in
17 this state in which individuals for consideration play games of
18 chance that award prizes and are operated by persons licensed or
19 otherwise authorized by this state to conduct casino gaming to
20 provide additional money for property tax relief. A general law
21 enacted in accordance with this section must:

22 (1) allow casino gaming operated by appropriately
23 licensed persons at locations in this state that are within 200
24 miles of the Gulf of Mexico;

1 (2) provide:

2 (A) a comprehensive licensing and certification
3 program, including criminal history record information, any
4 necessary background investigations, and licensing and
5 certification fees, to govern a person that manages casino gaming
6 operations in this state, that acts as a gaming employee, or that
7 maintains, manufactures, distributes, sells, or leases casino
8 games for use or play in this state;

9 (B) procedures for the state agency responsible
10 for maintaining criminal history record information for this state
11 to grant access to the information to the state agency responsible
12 for licensing and certification under Paragraph (A) of this
13 subdivision; and

14 (C) procedures for monitoring and inspecting
15 casino gaming operations as necessary to protect the public health,
16 welfare, and safety, to preserve the integrity of this state and
17 gaming operations in the state, and to prevent financial loss to
18 this state; and

19 (3) prohibit and impose criminal penalties for the
20 possession and operation of all gaming devices other than devices
21 operated in connection with authorized casino gaming operations or
22 gaming devices otherwise authorized by state law.

23 (b) In the general law enacted in accordance with Subsection
24 (a) of this section, the legislature may designate the counties in
25 which a casino gaming operator's license may be issued.

26 (c) All shipments of casino gaming equipment or other gaming
27 devices into, out of, or within this state authorized under this

1 section or a law enacted under this section are legal shipments of
2 the devices and are exempt from the provisions of 15 U.S.C. Sections
3 1171-1178 prohibiting the transportation of gambling devices.

4 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
5 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 2, 2021.
6 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
7 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the
8 operation of casino gaming in certain state coastal areas to
9 provide additional money for property tax relief."