

Resolution – Gambling in Texas

WHEREAS Government-sponsored gambling has had a devastating impact on many Texas families; and

WHEREAS the gambling industry and professional sports teams will continue their efforts to expand gambling in Texas by introducing casino style gambling under the guise of economic development; and

WHEREAS these efforts to expand casino style gambling take the form of land-based casinos, riverboat casinos, sports betting, daily fantasy sports, instant racing, electronic versions of raffles, bingo, lottery scratch tickets, and Keno; phone and computer based wagering, and other games of chance; and

WHEREAS eight-liners are illegally operated in the State of Texas under the ambiguous “fuzzy animal” exemption; and

WHEREAS commercially operated poker houses are illegally operated in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS the Texas Lottery continues to expand the negative effects of gambling through the introduction of \$20, \$30 and \$50 instant scratch tickets; and

WHEREAS dependence on lottery revenue exploits the weaknesses of Texas’ own citizens, collecting a disproportionate amount of revenue from those least able to pay forcing all Texans to pay increased taxes and fees for services; and

WHEREAS our government, communities, businesses, and citizens face legitimate risks posed by Class III Indian Gaming in the State of Texas if casino style gambling is introduced; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose government-sponsored gambling as a means of financing state government; and

BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose any further legalization, government facilitation, or expansion of any type of gambling including land-based casinos, riverboat casinos, sports betting, daily fantasy sports, instant racing, electronic versions of raffles, bingo, lottery scratch tickets, and Keno; phone and computer based wagering; and

BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that repeals the State Lottery; and

BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that repeals the ambiguous “fuzzy animal” exemption currently found in the penal code; and

BE IT RESOLVED that professional sports teams attempts to lead and ultimately participate in the expansion of gambling sends the wrong message to the youth of our State; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that assists in the vigorous enforcement of existing laws and regulations related to gambling and investigation of attempts to circumvent existing laws.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the _____ County/Senate District # _____ Convention Resolutions Committee from Precinct # _____ with the recommendation that it be passed and sent to the State Convention Platform Committee of the Republican Party of Texas.