

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, REAFFIRMING THE CITY'S LONGSTANDING POLICY AGAINST GAMBLING, AND STRONGLY OPPOSING THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF GAMBLING OPERATIONS IN THE CITY OF MIAMI, WHICH WOULD BRING A POKER ROOM AND JAI ALAI FRONTON TO THE HISTORIC EDGEWATER NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE PROSPECT OF FUTURE SLOT MACHINE OPERATIONS; AND, FURTHER, SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS BY THE CITY OF MIAMI TO CONTROL OR PROHIBIT ALL FUTURE EXPANSIONS OF GAMBLING.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach ("City") has a longstanding policy against gambling, as evidenced by Resolution Nos. 2018-30199, 2017-29846, 2014-28529, 2011-27812, 2008-26927, and 2008-26925; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance Nos. 2017-4104, 2017-4105, and 2017-4125, the City Commission has prohibited casino and gambling uses and operations in all zoning districts and future land use categories in the City; and

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, a South Florida pari-mutuel interest received a permit from the Florida Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering to operate a poker room and jai alai fronton in the heart of the historic Edgewater neighborhood located in the City of Miami; and

WHEREAS, historically, the pari-mutuel industry regularly seeks to expand its pari-mutuel operations into slot machine operations; and

WHEREAS, the negative economic and social effects of gambling operations far outweigh the potential revenues that may be generated in our community; and

WHEREAS, any new gambling operations in South Florida, especially in such close proximity to the City of Miami Beach, could damage the City's brand and image, and could cause irreparable harm to the City's quality of life for its residents, businesses, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, any expansion of gambling operations in South Florida would have a detrimental impact not only on the City, but the neighborhoods surrounding the proposed gaming facilities, which have taken many years to transform into the thriving business, cultural, art, shopping, and residential destinations of the Design District, Wynwood, and the Edgewater District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby reaffirm the City's longstanding policy against gambling, and strongly oppose the proposed expansion of gambling operations in the City of Miami, which would bring a poker room and jai alai fronton to the historic Edgewater neighborhood and the prospect of future slot machine operations; and, further, hereby support legislative efforts by the City of Miami to control or prohibit all future expansions of gambling.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of July, 2018.


ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Dan Gelber)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

7/16/18
Date