

Const. Art. IV, Section VII, par. 2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: Constitution Article IV, Section VII, par.2

(Gambling--Atlantic City)

LAWS OF: 1976

Bill No: ACR 126

Sponsor(s): Perskie and others

Date Introduced: January 19, 1976

Committee: Assembly: State Government, Federal & Interstate Relations

Senate: State Government, Federal & Interstate Relations & Veterans Affairs

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly: May 3, 1976

Senate: June 28, 1976

Date of Approval: July 6, 1976

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly No

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: Yes

974.90 New Jersey: Legislature. Assembly State Government, Federal & Interstate  
G191 Relations Committee.  
1976 Public hearing, held 4-14-76, Atlantic City, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
1976

7-6-76

[SECOND OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

## ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 19, 1976

By Assemblymen PERSKIE, KUPPERMAN, PELLECCCHIA, STEW-  
ART, HERMAN, JACKMAN, FORAN, VAN WAGNER, BUR-  
STEIN, T. GALLO, SCHUCK, ESPOSITO, CALL, PERKINS,  
McMANIMON, WOODSON, GEWERTZ, RAND, GORMAN, ADU-  
BATO, Assemblywoman MISZKIEWICZ, Assemblymen NEW-  
MAN, BARBOUR, LEFANTE, SCANLON, HURLEY, HAWKINS,  
DEVERIN, GREGORIO, CHINNICI, BROWN, WEIDEL and  
Assemblywoman CROCE

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and  
Interstate Relations

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to amend Article IV, Section VII,  
paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution.

1 BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
2 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1 1. The following amendment to Article IV, Section VII, para-  
2 graph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution is agreed to:

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT

2A *\*\*Amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV by adding*  
2B *thereto a new subparagraph D, as follows:*

2C *D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law the*  
2D *establishment and operation, under regulation and control by the*  
2E *State, of gambling houses or casinos within the boundaries, as*  
2F *heretofore established, of the city of Atlantic City, county of*  
2G *Atlantic, and to license and tax such operations and equipment used*  
2H *in connection therewith. Any law authorizing the establishment*  
2I *and operation of such gambling establishments shall provide for*  
2J *the State revenues derived therefrom to be applied solely for the*  
2K *purpose of providing reductions in property taxes, rentals, tele-*  
2L *phone, gas, electric, and municipal utilities charges of eligible*  
2M *senior citizens and disabled residents of the State, in accordance*

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill  
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

2x with such formulae as the Legislature shall by law provide. The  
 2o type and number of such casinos or gambling houses and of the  
 2p gambling games which may be conducted in any such establishment  
 2q shall be determined by or pursuant to the terms of the law autho-  
 2r rizing the establishment and operation thereof.\*\*

3 \*\*[Amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV, so that the  
 4 same shall read as follows:]\*\*

5 \*\*[2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the Legisla-  
 6 ture unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof have  
 7 been heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the  
 8 votes cast by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter  
 9 be submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast  
 10 thereon by, the legally qualified voters of the State voting at a  
 11 general election, except that, without any such submission or au-  
 12 thorization;]\*\*

13 \*\*[A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable, educa-  
 14 tional, religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs,  
 15 senior citizen associations or clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
 16 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions and  
 17 control as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Legislature  
 18 by law games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling \* [or] \* of\*  
 19 rights to participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kind  
 20 of game of chance sometimes known as bingo or lotto, played with  
 21 cards bearing numbers or other designations, five or more in one  
 22 line, the holder covering numbers as objects, similarly numbered,  
 23 are drawn from a receptacle and the game being won by the person  
 24 who first covers a previously designated arrangement of numbers  
 25 on such a card, when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance  
 26 are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or  
 27 public-spirited uses, and in the case of senior citizen associations  
 28 or clubs to the support of such organizations, in any municipality,  
 29 in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a  
 30 general or special election as the submission thereof shall be pre-  
 31 scribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the conduct of  
 32 such games of chance therein.])\*\*

33 \*\*[B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law,  
 34 bona fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal  
 35 organizations, civic and service clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
 36 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct games of chance of, and re-  
 37 stricted to, the selling of rights to participate, and the awarding  
 38 of prizes, in the specific kinds of games of chance sometimes known  
 39 as raffles, conducted by the drawing for prizes or by the allotment

40 of prizes by chance, when the entire net proceeds of such games of  
 41 chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, re-  
 42 ligious or public-spirited uses, in any municipality, in which such  
 43 law shall be adopted by a majority of the qualified voters, voting  
 44 thereon, at a general or special election as the submission thereof  
 45 shall be prescribed by law and for the Legislature, from time to  
 46 time, to restrict and control, by law, the conduct of such games of  
 47 chance, and】\*\*

48 \*\*【C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the con-  
 49 duct of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to partici-  
 50 pate therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the entire  
 51 net proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions,  
 52 State aid for education.】\*\*

53 \*\*【D. *It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the estab-*  
 54 *lishment and operation of gambling casinos located in the city of*  
 55 *Atlantic City, county of Atlantic. The site, type and number of*  
 56 *such casinos, the gambling games which may be conducted therein,*  
 57 *and the manner of regulation or operation of such casinos by the*  
 58 *State or any instrumentality thereof shall be determined by or*  
 59 *pursuant to law. The entire net proceeds accruing to the State from*  
 60 *any such casinos shall be set aside in a special fund administered*  
 61 *by the State Treasurer, to be appropriated by the Legislature ac-*  
 62 *cording to law for the reduction of property taxes, rentals, and*  
 63 *telephone, electric, gas and municipal utilities charges of eligible*  
 64 *senior citizens and disabled residents of the State.】\*\**

1 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
 2 agreed to, pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution,  
 3 it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election  
 4 occurring more than 3 months after such final agreement and shall  
 5 be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each county  
 6 designated by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
 7 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than \*【2】\*  
 8 \*3\* months prior to said general election.

1 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be sub-  
 2 mitted to the people at said election in the following manner and  
 3 form:

4 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at such  
 5 general election, the following:

6 1. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,  
 7 a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

8 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X),  
 9 plus (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes."

- 10 If you are opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check  
 11 (✓) in the square opposite the word "No."  
 12 2. In every municipality the following question:

	Yes.	<p style="text-align: center;">CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT          CASINOS IN ATLANTIC CITY FOR THE BENE-          FIT OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISABLED          RESIDENTS OF THE STATE</p>
	No.	<p>Shall the Constitution be amended, as agreed to by the Legislature, to authorize the Legislature to establish <i>**and regulate**</i> gambling casinos in Atlantic City, with the State's <i>**[proceeds] revenues**</i> therefrom being <i>**[paid into a special fund]</i> <i>applied solely**</i> to reduce property taxes, rentals, and telephone, gas, electric and municipal utilities charges of eligible senior citizens and disabled residents of the State?</p>

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 19, 1976

By Assemblymen PERSKIE, KUPPERMAN, PELLECCIA, STEWART, HERMAN, JACKMAN, FORAN, VAN WAGNER, BURSTEIN, T. GALLO, SCHUCK, ESPOSITO, CALI, PERKINS, McMANIMON, WOODSON, GEWERTZ, RAND, GORMAN, ADUBATO, Assemblywoman MISZKIEWICZ, Assemblymen NEWMAN, BARBOUR, LEFANTE, SCANLON, HURLEY, HAWKINS, DEVERIN, GREGORIO, CHINNICI, BROWN, WEIDEL and Assemblywoman CROCE

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and  
Interstate Relations

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to amend Article IV, Section VII,  
paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution.

1 BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
2 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1 1. The following amendment to Article IV, Section VII, para-  
2 graph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution is agreed to:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

3 Amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV, so that the same  
4 shall read as follows:

5 2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the Legisla-  
6 ture unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof have  
7 been heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the  
8 votes cast by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter  
9 be submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast  
10 thereon by, the legally qualified voters of the State voting at a  
11 general election, except that, without any such submission or au-  
12 thorization;

13 A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable, educa-  
14 tional, religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs,  
15 senior citizen associations or clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
16 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions and  
17 control as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Legislature

18 by law, games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling or rights  
19 to participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kind of  
20 game of chance sometimes known as bingo or lotto, played with  
21 cards bearing numbers or other designations, five or more in one  
22 line, the holder covering numbers as objects, similarly numbered,  
23 are drawn from a receptacle and the game being won by the person  
24 who first covers a previously designated arrangement of numbers  
25 on such a card, when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance  
26 are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or  
27 public-spirited uses, and in the case of senior citizen associations  
28 or clubs to the support of such organizations, in any municipality,  
29 in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a  
30 general or special election as the submission thereof shall be pre-  
31 scribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the conduct of  
32 such games of chance therein.

33 B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law,  
34 bona fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal  
35 organizations, civic and service clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
36 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct games of chance of, and re-  
37 stricted to, the selling of rights to participate, and the awarding  
38 of prizes, in the specific kinds of games of chance sometimes known  
39 as raffles, conducted by the drawing for prizes or by the allotment  
40 of prizes by chance, when the entire net proceeds of such games of  
41 chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, re-  
42 ligious or public-spirited uses, in any municipality, in which such  
43 law shall be adopted by a majority of the qualified voters, voting  
44 thereon, at a general or special election as the submission thereof  
45 shall be prescribed by law and for the Legislature, from time to  
46 time, to restrict and control, by law, the conduct of such games of  
47 chance, and

48 C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the conduct  
49 of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to participate  
50 therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the entire  
51 net proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions,  
52 State aid for education.

53 *D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the estab-*  
54 *lishment and operation of gambling casinos located in the city of*  
55 *Atlantic City, county of Atlantic. The site, type and number of*  
56 *such casinos, the gambling games which may be conducted therein,*  
57 *and the manner of regulation or operation of such casinos by the*  
58 *State or any instrumentality thereof shall be determined by or*  
59 *pursuant to law. The entire net proceeds accruing to the State from*

60 any such casinos shall be set aside in a special fund administered  
 61 by the State Treasurer, to be appropriated by the Legislature ac-  
 62 cording to law for the reduction of property taxes, rentals, and  
 63 telephone, electric, gas and municipal utilities charges of eligible  
 64 senior citizens and disabled residents of the State.

1 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
 2 agreed to, pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution,  
 3 it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election  
 4 occurring more than 3 months after such final agreement and shall  
 5 be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each county  
 6 designated by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
 7 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than 2  
 8 months prior to said general election.

1 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be sub-  
 2 mitted to the people at said election in the following manner and  
 3 form:

4 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at such  
 5 general election, the following:

6 1. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,  
 7 a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

8 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X),  
 9 plus (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes."  
 10 If you are opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check  
 11 (✓) in the square opposite the word "No."

12 2. In every municipality the following question:

	Yes.	CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CASINOS IN ATLANTIC CITY FOR THE BENE- FIT OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISABLED RESIDENTS OF THE STATE Shall the Constitution be amended, as agreed to by the Legislature, to authorize the Legislature to establish gambling ca- sinos in Atlantic City, with the State's proceeds therefrom being paid into a spe- cial fund to reduce property taxes, rent- als, and telephone, gas, electric and mu- nicipal utilities charges of eligible senior citizens and disabled residents of the State?
	No.	

## STATEMENT

This concurrent resolution proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature to provide by law for the establishment and regulation of gambling casinos in Atlantic City with the State's proceeds therefrom to be appropriated to reduce property taxes, rents and utility charges of eligible senior and disabled citizens.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO  
**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126**

-----  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
-----

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 9, 1976

Amend page 2, section 1, line 18, omit "or", insert "of".

Amend page 3, section 2, line 7, omit "2", insert "3".

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

## ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 19, 1976

By Assemblymen PERSKIE, KUPPERMAN, PELLECCCHIA, STEWART, HERMAN, JACKMAN, FORAN, VAN WAGNER, BURSTEIN, T. GALLO, SCHUCK, ESPOSITO, CALI, PERKINS, McMANIMON, WOODSON, GEWERTZ, RAND, GORMAN, ADUBATO, Assemblywoman MISZKIEWICZ, Assemblymen NEWMAN, BARBOUR, LEFANTE, SCANLON, HURLEY, HAWKINS, DEVERIN, GREGORIO, CHINNICI, BROWN, WEIDEL and Assemblywoman CROCE

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and  
Interstate Relations

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to amend Article IV, Section VII,  
paragraph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution.

1 BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
2 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1 1. The following amendment to Article IV, Section VII, para-  
2 graph 2 of the New Jersey Constitution is agreed to:

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT

3 Amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV, so that the same  
4 shall read as follows:

5 2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the Legisla-  
6 ture unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof have  
7 been heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the  
8 votes cast by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter  
9 be submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast  
10 thereon by, the legally qualified voters of the State voting at a  
11 general election, except that, without any such submission or au-  
12 thorization;

13 A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable, educa-  
14 tional, religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service clubs,  
15 senior citizen associations or clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
16 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions and  
17 control as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Legislature

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill  
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

18 by law games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling \***[or]**\* \*of\*  
19 rights to participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kind  
20 of game of chance sometimes known as bingo or lotto, played with  
21 cards bearing numbers or other designations, five or more in one  
22 line, the holder covering numbers as objects, similarly numbered,  
23 are drawn from a receptacle and the game being won by the person  
24 who first covers a previously designated arrangement of numbers  
25 on such a card, when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance  
26 are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or  
27 public-spirited uses, and in the case of senior citizen associations  
28 or clubs to the support of such organizations, in any municipality,  
29 in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting thereon, at a  
30 general or special election as the submission thereof shall be pre-  
31 scribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the conduct of  
32 such games of chance therein.

33 B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law,  
34 bona fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal  
35 organizations, civic and service clubs, volunteer fire companies and  
36 first-aid or rescue squads to conduct games of chance of, and re-  
37 stricted to, the selling of rights to participate, and the awarding  
38 of prizes, in the specific kinds of games of chance sometimes known  
39 as raffles, conducted by the drawing for prizes or by the allotment  
40 of prizes by chance, when the entire net proceeds of such games of  
41 chance are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, re-  
42 ligious or public-spirited uses, in any municipality, in which such  
43 law shall be adopted by a majority of the qualified voters, voting  
44 thereon, at a general or special election as the submission thereof  
45 shall be prescribed by law and for the Legislature, from time to  
46 time, to restrict and control, by law, the conduct of such games of  
47 chance, and

48 C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the conduct  
49 of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to participate  
50 therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the entire  
51 net proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions,  
52 State aid for education.

53 *D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the estab-*  
54 *lishment and operation of gambling casinos located in the city of*  
55 *Atlantic City, county of Atlantic. The site, type and number of*  
56 *such casinos, the gambling games which may be conducted therein,*  
57 *and the manner of regulation or operation of such casinos by the*  
58 *State or any instrumentality thereof shall be determined by or*  
59 *pursuant to law. The entire net proceeds accruing to the State from*

60 any such casinos shall be set aside in a special fund administered  
 61 by the State Treasurer, to be appropriated by the Legislature ac-  
 62 cording to law for the reduction of property taxes, rentals, and  
 63 telephone, electric, gas and municipal utilities charges of eligible  
 64 senior citizens and disabled residents of the State.

1 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
 2 agreed to, pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution,  
 3 it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election  
 4 occurring more than 3 months after such final agreement and shall  
 5 be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each county  
 6 designated by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
 7 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than **\*[2]\***  
 8 **\*3\*** months prior to said general election.

1 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be sub-  
 2 mitted to the people at said election in the following manner and  
 3 form:

4 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at such  
 5 general election, the following:

6 1. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,  
 7 a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

8 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X),  
 9 plus (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes."  
 10 If you are opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check  
 11 (✓) in the square opposite the word "No."

12 2. In every municipality the following question:

	Yes.	CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CASINOS IN ATLANTIC CITY FOR THE BENE- FIT OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISABLED RESIDENTS OF THE STATE  Shall the Constitution be amended, as agreed to by the Legislature, to authorize the Legislature to establish gambling cas- inos in Atlantic City, with the State's proceeds therefrom being paid into a spe- cial fund to reduce property taxes, rent- als, and telephone, gas, electric and mu- nicipal utilities charges of eligible senior citizens and disabled residents of the State?
	No.	

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENTS TO  
**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126**  
[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

---

ADOPTED MARCH 3, 1976

Amend pages 1, 2, 3, section 1, lines 3-64, omit and insert:

“Amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV by adding thereto a new subparagraph D, as follows:

D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law the establishment and operation, under regulation and control by the State, of gambling houses or casinos within the boundaries, as heretofore established, of the city of Atlantic City, county of Atlantic, and to license and tax such operations and equipment used in connection therewith. Any law authorizing the establishment and operation of such gambling establishments shall provide for the State revenues derived therefrom to be applied solely for the purpose of providing reductions in property taxes, rentals, telephone, gas, electric, and municipal utilities charges of eligible senior citizens and disabled residents of the State, in accordance with such formulae as the Legislature shall by law provide. The type and number of such casinos or gambling houses and of the gambling games which may be conducted in any such establishment shall be determined by or pursuant to the terms of the law authorizing the establishment and operation thereof.”

Amend page 3, section 3, box, after “establish” in line 3 of question insert “and regulate”; omit “proceeds”, insert “revenues” in line 5 of question; omit “paid into a special fund”, insert “applied solely” in lines 5 and 6 of question.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL AND  
INTERSTATE RELATIONS AND VETERANS  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 126**  
[SECOND OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 19, 1976

The resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey to permit casino gambling in Atlantic City in the county of Atlantic. The proposed amendment would amend paragraph 2 of Section VII, Article IV, to allow the Legislature to authorize "by law" the "establishment and operation" of gambling houses or casinos under State "regulation and control." The State is to "license and tax such operations and equipment used in connection therewith." The proposed amendment mandates that the revenues derived from the operations of the gambling establishments shall be applied only for the purpose of reducing property taxes, rentals, telephone charges, gas, electric and municipal utilities charges of eligible senior citizens and disabled persons resident in the State.

The Attorney General has informed the sponsor that, in his opinion, Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 126 (1976) is sufficiently different from the Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 128 (1974), which was defeated by the voters in November of 1974, to avoid the limitation imposed by paragraph 7 of Article 9 of the New Jersey Constitution. This paragraph provides that a proposed amendment that fails to attain approval by the voters (or a substantially similar amendment) shall not be submitted to the people again before the "third general election thereafter." In the Attorney General's opinion Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 126 (1976) differs from Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 128 (1974) in three important respects. It would constitutionally restrict the location of the gambling casinos to Atlantic City. The Legislature would have full control in determining the manner of regulation and the operation of the casinos and, as noted above, the proceeds would be set aside to be applied toward aiding senior citizens and disabled residents.

A public hearing on Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 126 was held by the Assembly State Government, Federal and Interstate Re-

lations Committee on April 14, 1976, with the Senate State Government, Federal and Interstate Relations and Veterans Affairs Committee participating and approximately 40 witnesses appearing to speak on the resolution. The measure is strongly supported by many citizens and groups from Atlantic City. The main source of opposition was from Colonel Clinton L. Pagano, Superintendent, New Jersey State Police and from representatives of church groups.

During the public hearing the question was raised by the representative of the National Football League and the representative of the Commissioner of Baseball concerning the potential for betting on sports contests in the casinos authorized by this amendment. The committee is reporting this bill favorably with the expressed understanding that it is not the intention of the sponsors, the committee, or the Legislature that this constitutional amendment would authorize enabling legislation that would permit any form of gambling or betting on the outcome of any sports events or other activities that take place beyond the confines of the casino itself.

It is the intention of this proposed constitutional amendment, as understood by the Senate State Government, Federal and Interstate Relations and Veterans Affairs Committee, to authorize legislation which would only permit gambling on games conducted within the confines of the casino, including roulette, chemin de fer, cards or dice.