

**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. 66**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
222nd LEGISLATURE**

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator VIN GOPAL**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Senator PAUL A. SARLO**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Proposes constitutional amendment authorizing Legislature to establish casino gaming at Monmouth Park Racetrack and Meadowlands Racetrack; dedicates State's revenues.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the  
5 General Assembly concurring):

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7 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of  
8 the State of New Jersey is agreed to:

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10 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

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12 Amend Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 to read as follows:

13 2. No gambling of any kind shall be authorized by the  
14 Legislature unless the specific kind, restrictions and control thereof  
15 have been heretofore submitted to, and authorized by a majority of  
16 the votes cast by, the people at a special election or shall hereafter  
17 be submitted to, and authorized by a majority of the votes cast  
18 thereon by, the legally qualified voters of the State voting at a  
19 general election, except that, without any such submission or  
20 authorization:

21 A. It shall be lawful for bona fide veterans, charitable,  
22 educational, religious or fraternal organizations, civic and service  
23 clubs, senior citizen associations or clubs, volunteer fire companies  
24 and first-aid or rescue squads to conduct, under such restrictions  
25 and control as shall from time to time be prescribed by the  
26 Legislature by law, games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling  
27 of rights to participate, the awarding of prizes, in the specific kind  
28 of game of chance sometimes known as bingo or lotto, played with  
29 cards bearing numbers or other designations, 5 or more in one line,  
30 the holder covering numbers as objects, similarly numbered, are  
31 drawn from a receptacle and the game being won by the person who  
32 first covers a previously designated arrangement of numbers on  
33 such a card, when the entire net proceeds of such games of chance  
34 are to be devoted to educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or  
35 public-spirited uses, or to the support of such organizations, in any  
36 municipality, in which a majority of the qualified voters, voting  
37 thereon, at a general or special election as the submission thereof  
38 shall be prescribed by the Legislature by law, shall authorize the  
39 conduct of such games of chance therein;

40 B. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law,  
41 bona fide veterans, charitable, educational, religious or fraternal  
42 organizations, civic and service clubs, senior citizen associations or  
43 clubs, volunteer fire companies and first-aid or rescue squads to  
44 conduct games of chance of, and restricted to, the selling of rights  
45 to participate, and the awarding of prizes, in the specific kinds of

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 games of chance sometimes known as raffles, conducted by the  
2 drawing for prizes or by the allotment of prizes by chance, when the  
3 entire net proceeds of such games of chance are to be devoted to  
4 educational, charitable, patriotic, religious or public-spirited uses,  
5 or to the support of such organizations, in any municipality, in  
6 which such law shall be adopted by a majority of the qualified  
7 voters, voting thereon, at a general or special election as the  
8 submission thereof shall be prescribed by law and for the  
9 Legislature, from time to time, to restrict and control, by law, the  
10 conduct of such games of chance;

11 C. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize the conduct  
12 of State lotteries restricted to the selling of rights to participate  
13 therein and the awarding of prizes by drawings when the entire net  
14 proceeds of any such lottery shall be for State institutions and State  
15 aid for education; provided, however, that it shall not be competent  
16 for the Legislature to borrow, appropriate or use, under any pretense  
17 whatsoever, lottery net proceeds for the confinement, housing,  
18 supervision or treatment of, or education programs for, adult  
19 criminal offenders or juveniles adjudged delinquent or for the  
20 construction, staffing, support, maintenance or operation of an adult  
21 or juvenile correctional facility or institution;

22 D. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law the  
23 establishment and operation, under regulation and control by the  
24 State, of gambling houses or casinos within the boundaries, as  
25 heretofore established, of the city of Atlantic City, county of  
26 Atlantic, and to license and tax such operations and equipment used  
27 in connection therewith. Any law authorizing the establishment and  
28 operation of such gambling establishments shall provide for the  
29 State revenues derived therefrom to be applied solely for the  
30 purpose of providing funding for reductions in property taxes,  
31 rental, telephone, gas, electric, and municipal utilities charges of  
32 eligible senior citizens and disabled residents of the State, and for  
33 additional or expanded health services or benefits or transportation  
34 services or benefits to eligible senior citizens and disabled  
35 residents, in accordance with such formulae as the Legislature shall  
36 by law provide. The type and number of such casinos or gambling  
37 houses and of the gambling games which may be conducted in any  
38 such establishment shall be determined by or pursuant to the terms  
39 of the law authorizing the establishment and operation thereof.

40 It shall also be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law  
41 wagering at casinos or gambling houses in Atlantic City on the  
42 results of any professional, college, or amateur sport or athletic  
43 event, except that wagering shall not be permitted on a college sport  
44 or athletic event that takes place in New Jersey or on a sport or  
45 athletic event in which any New Jersey college team participates  
46 regardless of where the event takes place;

47 E. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law, (1)  
48 the simultaneous transmission by picture of running and harness

1 horse races conducted at racetracks located within or outside of this  
2 State, or both, to gambling houses or casinos in the city of Atlantic  
3 City and (2) the specific kind, restrictions and control of wagering  
4 at those gambling establishments on the results of those races. The  
5 State's share of revenues derived therefrom shall be applied for  
6 services to benefit eligible senior citizens as shall be provided by  
7 law; and

8 F. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law, the  
9 specific kind, restrictions and control of wagering on the results of  
10 live or simulcast running and harness horse races conducted within  
11 or outside of this State. The State's share of revenues derived  
12 therefrom shall be used for such purposes as shall be provided by  
13 law.

14 It shall also be lawful for the Legislature to authorize by law  
15 wagering at current or former running and harness horse racetracks  
16 in this State on the results of any professional, college, or amateur  
17 sport or athletic event, except that wagering shall not be permitted  
18 on a college sport or athletic event that takes place in New Jersey or  
19 on a sport or athletic event in which any New Jersey college team  
20 participates regardless of where the event takes place.

21 G. It shall be lawful for the Legislature to authorize, by law, the  
22 specific kind, restrictions, and control of casino games to be  
23 conducted at the Meadowlands Racetrack and the Monmouth Park  
24 Racetrack and to license and tax such operations and equipment  
25 used in connection therewith. A law authorizing the establishment  
26 and operation of casino games pursuant to this subparagraph shall  
27 provide for the State revenues derived therefrom to be applied for  
28 the following purposes: 45 percent of such revenues shall be  
29 dedicated to provide funding for reductions in property taxes; 20  
30 percent of such revenues shall be dedicated to provide funding for  
31 extraordinary special education aid; 10 percent of such revenues  
32 shall be dedicated to provide funding for the State pension systems;  
33 10 percent of such revenues shall be dedicated to provide funding  
34 for cost-of-living adjustments for retired State employees; 10  
35 percent of such revenues shall be dedicated to provide funding for  
36 the support of Atlantic City tourism; and five percent of such  
37 revenues shall be dedicated to provide funding for the running and  
38 harness horse racing industry in this State, as the Legislature shall  
39 provide by law.

40 (cf: Art. IV, Sec. VII, par. 2, amended effective January 1, 2022)

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42 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
43 agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it  
44 shall be submitted to the people at the next general election  
45 occurring more than three months after the final agreement and  
46 shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each  
47 county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the

1 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three  
2 months prior to the general election.

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4 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be  
5 submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and  
6 form:

7 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the  
8 general election, the following:

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

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

15 b. In every municipality the following question:  
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	YES	<p>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW CASINO GAMES AT MEADOWLANDS RACETRACK AND MONMOUTH PARK RACETRACK</p> <p>Do you approve amending the New Jersey Constitution to allow the Legislature to pass laws permitting casino games at the Meadowlands Racetrack and Monmouth Park Racetrack? The laws would provide for the types of games, regulate their use, and impose taxes on the associated revenue.</p> <p>The State's revenues from taxes on the casino games would be used only for certain purposes. These purposes include property tax relief, special education, funding for the State pension systems, and assistance for the horse racing industry in this State. At the present time, casino games are allowed only in Atlantic City casinos.</p>
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	NO	<p style="text-align: center;">INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>At the present time, casino games are allowed only in Atlantic City casinos. This amendment would allow the Legislature to pass laws permitting casino games at the Meadowlands Racetrack and Monmouth Park Racetrack. The laws would provide for the types of games, regulate their use, and impose taxes on the associated revenue.</p> <p>The State's revenues from taxes on casino games at these two locations would be used only for certain purposes. These purposes would include property tax relief, special education, funding for the State pension systems, and assistance for the horse racing industry in this State.</p>
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STATEMENT

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This constitutional amendment would allow the Legislature to establish casino games at the Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands racetracks. Upon approval of this amendment, the Legislature may pass a law prescribing the specific kind, restrictions, and control of operations of such casino games.

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The State's share of revenues derived from casino games at these two locations would be dedicated to the following purposes: 45 percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for reductions in property taxes; 20 percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for extraordinary special education aid; 10 percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for the State pension systems; 10 percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for cost-of-living adjustments for retired State employees; 10 percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for the support of Atlantic City tourism; and five percent of such revenues would be dedicated to provide funding for the running and harness horse racing industry in this State, as the Legislature will provide by law.

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The types and number of casino games which may be conducted at these racetracks, and the taxes imposed these games, will be determined by the Legislature by passing a new law.

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