

Item #15

COPY



RESOLUTION

Of the Polk County Commissioners Court

IN SUPPORT OF PASSAGE OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 45

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution 45 has been introduced for consideration by the Legislature of the State of Texas, proposing an amendment to Section 47, Article III of the Constitution of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the said amendment is proposed to allow the legislature to authorize the operation of limited casino gaming and video lottery games by recognized Indian tribes and others, upon the creation of a Commission regulating gaming and casino-based development projects in the State of Texas, with gaming revenues designated to pay tuition and fees for the post secondary education of Texas high school graduates as administered by a higher education trust fund; and

WHEREAS, the said amendment proposes licensing of twelve casino-anchored destination attraction development projects within the State of Texas, to-wit: seven of which for urban areas, as allocated by population, each said development to include total land and development costs of at least \$400 million; two of which on islands in the Gulf of Mexico, each said development to include total land and development costs of at least \$200 million; and three additional projects at locations determined by the proposed Texas Gaming Commission to achieve targeted economic development or permanent new job creation, each said project to include total land and development costs of at least \$150 million;

WHEREAS, the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas is a federally-recognized Indian tribe located in Livingston, Polk County, Texas, and is committed to supporting the passage of State legislation to establish gaming on tribal lands, and the said Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas has endorsed the said establishment of gaming as a positive economic development which will allow the citizens and businesses of Southeast Texas the opportunity to prosper through the growth and development within the region; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Texas Constitution will require approval at a general election held for its consideration by the voters of the State of Texas; and further be subject to approval of the voters of Polk County upon application for license for a casino-anchored destination attraction development project to be located in Polk County; and

WHEREAS, promotion of economic development, if so approved by the voters of the State of Texas and voters of Polk County, will be beneficial to Polk County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF POLK COUNTY, TEXAS:

That Polk County, Texas hereby joins the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas in its support of passage of Senate Joint Resolution 45.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of March, 2007.

John P. Thompson, County Judge

Attest:

Barbara Middleton, County Clerk