

House Resolution 1

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48th, McCall of the 33rd, Randall of the 142nd, Stephens of the 164th, Kidd of the 145th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to
 2 provide by law for pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing; to provide for related matters; to
 3 provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other
 4 purposes.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII of the Constitution is amended by adding a new
 8 subparagraph to read as follows:

9 "(e) The General Assembly may provide by law for the operation and regulation of
 10 pari-mutuel wagering in this state on horse racing and for any matters relating to such
 11 activities. The General Assembly may authorize and regulate by general law personal
 12 electronic, Internet, and telephonic pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing conducted in
 13 noncommercial settings. Commercial pari-mutuel wagering, including, but not limited to,
 14 the establishment and operation of race facilities at which pari-mutuel wagering is
 15 conducted and the establishment and operation of off-track wagering facilities at which
 16 pari-mutuel wagering is conducted, shall not be conducted in a county or municipality until
 17 such activities are approved by a majority of the electors of such county or municipality
 18 voting in a referendum on the conduct of such commercial pari-mutuel wagering activities
 19 within such county or municipality. Pari-mutuel wagering shall be exempt from sales and
 20 use taxes. The General Assembly may provide by law for a portion of the proceeds derived
 21 from pari-mutuel wagering activities to be distributed to organizations and educational
 22 institutions in this state for the development and support of the equine industry in this state.
 23 The General Assembly shall provide for the dedication of the net revenues and proceeds
 24 derived from such activities after payment of all necessary operating expenses and
 25 distributions, purses, and cash prizes to one or more of the specific purposes set forth in
 26 this subparagraph. Such net revenues and proceeds shall not be subject to Article III,
 27 Section IX, Paragraph IV(c); Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(a); or Article VII,

28 Section III, Paragraph II, except that the net revenues and proceeds after payment of all
 29 necessary operating expenses and distributions, purses, and cash prizes shall be subject to
 30 Article VII, Section III, Paragraph II. Such net revenues and proceeds shall be accounted
 31 for separately and shall be specifically identified by the Governor in the annual budget
 32 presented to the General Assembly as a separate budget category entitled 'Pari-mutuel
 33 Wagering Proceeds,' and the Governor shall make specific recommendations as to the
 34 programs for which such net revenues and proceeds shall be appropriated. Such net
 35 revenues and proceeds shall be used to supplement, not supplant, nonpari-mutuel wagering
 36 resources for the following programs and purposes:

37 (1) Tuition scholarships, grants, or loans to citizens of this state to enable such citizens
 38 to attend colleges and universities located within this state, regardless of whether such
 39 colleges or universities are operated by the Board of Regents of the University System
 40 of Georgia, or to attend institutions operated under the authority of the Technical College
 41 System of Georgia;

42 (2) Voluntary pre-kindergarten; and

43 (3) Funding any and all costs or any portion of the costs of providing trauma care
 44 services by public and private hospitals and medical facilities in this state.

45 The General Assembly shall appropriate all such net revenues and proceeds in accordance
 46 with law."

47 **SECTION 2.**

48 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as
 49 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the
 50 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

51 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the General
 52 Assembly to provide by law for pari-mutuel wagering in Georgia on horse
 53 () NO racing conditioned, except for personal electronic, Internet, and telephonic
 54 pari-mutuel wagering which the General Assembly may authorize and
 55 regulate by general law, upon the approval by the electors of the county or
 56 municipality in which such activities are to be conducted in a referendum
 57 and for the use of the net revenues and proceeds only for the purposes of
 58 funding higher education tuition scholarships, grants, or loans; voluntary
 59 pre-kindergarten programs; and funding any and all costs or any portion of
 60 the costs of providing trauma care services by public and private hospitals
 61 and medical facilities in this state?"

62 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

63 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If

64 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall
65 become a part of the Constitution of this state.