

# STATE OF ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2005

**Source**  
HR 8 am

**House  
Resolve No.**  
8



Establishing the House Task Force on Alaska Gaming Policy to consider the establishment of a gaming commission and study gaming activities in the state; and providing for a report of the findings to the Alaska Legislative Council.

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## **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

**WHEREAS** gaming activities allowed by the State of Alaska need additional oversight to protect the public; and

**WHEREAS** the legislature wishes to ensure that all games of chance and contests of skill are operated fairly; and

**WHEREAS** the legislature has authorized over 22 types of games of chance and contests of skill, including ice classics, raffles, fish derbies, rain classics, pull-tabs, dog mushing, and bingo games; and

**WHEREAS** the people of the state have enjoyed recreational gaming activities since the first pioneers came to the "Last Frontier," and a bill authorizing gaming activities was passed by the very first Alaska State Legislature; and

**WHEREAS** the proceeds from authorized gaming activity in Alaska exceed

\$358,000,000 annually; and

**WHEREAS** nonprofit organizations in the state benefit by receiving income amounting to approximately \$85,000,000 from gaming revenue; and

**WHEREAS** 1,200 nonprofit organizations with permits depend on gaming to fund their good work to benefit Alaskans; and

**WHEREAS** a majority of the people of the state participate in reasonable gaming activities; and

**WHEREAS** citizens of the state are preparing initiatives that propose additional legalized gaming activity; and

**WHEREAS** the legislature finds and determines that it is in the public interest to have controlled and well managed gaming in the state to protect the public; and

**WHEREAS** the legislature finds that most states with legalized gaming have a gaming commission; and

**WHEREAS** a gaming commission monitors, regulates, and enforces gaming laws for the public benefit;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives establishes in the legislative branch the House Task Force on Alaska Gaming Policy to research and make recommendations to the legislature relating to the pros and cons of establishing a gaming commission; if a gaming commission is recommended, the composition and responsibilities of the gaming commission; the gaming activities to be permitted; and other findings before January 1, 2006; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of Representatives is respectfully requested to appoint to the task force

- (1) three representatives from the House of Representatives, including at least one member from the minority;
- (2) one member from the Department of Revenue;
- (3) one member from the Alaska hospitality industry;
- (4) two members from charitable nonprofit organizations that receive income from gaming activities, including at least one member from a veterans' organization;
- (5) two members who have a permit to operate under AS 05.15.122; including at least one member who represents multiple beneficiary permittees; and

(6) two members of the general public; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Legislative Council shall provide reasonably necessary administrative services to the task force upon request of the task force; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House members are entitled to their normal rates of per diem and travel and that the members who are not employed by the state are not entitled to per diem; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force established under this resolution is terminated January 30, 2006.