

**RESOLUTION # 208-14**

**RESOLUTION URGING STATE LAWMAKERS TO OPPOSE AMENDING STATE  
CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT CASINO GAMBLING IN NEW JERSEY  
IN SITES OTHER THAN ATLANTIC CITY**

**WHEREAS**, for the past 36 years (since 1978), Atlantic City has been the sole operational site for casinos in the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the economy of Atlantic City and surrounding areas is largely influenced by the casino industry in areas such as jobs, housing, tax rates and assessments; and

**WHEREAS**, with the expansion of casino gambling to Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware and Connecticut, Atlantic City is no longer the sole casino/legalized gambling destination on the east coast; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Governor's and Legislature have supported Atlantic City as being the sole site for casino operation/gambling within the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, Governor Christie and the Legislature amended gambling and tourism regulations and "...vowed to protect the monopoly [of Atlantic City gambling site] for five years..." – until at least 2016 so casinos could recover under the State plan; and

**WHEREAS**, expansion of permitted legalized gambling sites in New York and Pennsylvania threatens to draw even more people from the Atlantic City venue; and

**WHEREAS**, further deterioration of the Atlantic City casino industry would not only effect Atlantic City but would have a ripple effect felt in the surrounding communities, Atlantic County and South Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlantic City casino industry employs over 31,000 men and women, including 27,000 from Atlantic County and supports numerous small local businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of these jobs will hurt the hard working middle class men and women of Atlantic County who are the very people the casino industry was intended to help; and

**WHEREAS**, any further decline in casino property values in Atlantic City will increase property taxes throughout Atlantic County; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to operate casinos in New Jersey outside of Atlantic City, a referendum is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to place a referendum before the people, legislation to amend the State Constitution is needed with 60 percent of the State legislators passing the bill or by a simple majority of each house in consecutive years; and

**WHEREAS**, by comments in the press recently, it appears that SOUTH Jersey's own Legislators are considering stripping Atlantic City of its monopoly.

**WHEREAS**, the facts tell us casino gaming in North Jersey will negatively impact our regional economy, depress our property values, and place 27,000 jobs at risk, thereby making it harder for local families to afford to live in Atlantic County.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Galloway, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that:

1. State Legislators be urged to vote "no" on any bill that would attempt to change the State Constitution to permit a referendum regarding gambling in New Jersey outside of Atlantic City.
2. The Governor and State Senate President be urged to honor their vow to protect the monopoly of legalized gambling in Atlantic City [until 2016].
3. This Resolution be sent to all State Legislators, the Conference of Mayors, Atlantic County Freeholders and Executive Director, and all South Jersey municipalities in order that they may commit to the continued support of Atlantic City and the surrounding communities.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Municipal Council of the Township of Galloway, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2014.

**TOWNSHIP OF GALLOWAY**

  
Kelli Danieli  
Acting Township Clerk

Recorded Vote:	MOTIONS	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Coppola					X
Gargione		X			
Gorman	1	X			
Maldonado		X			
Meadows	2	X			
Tyrrell		X			
Purdy		X			