

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LEGISLATORS FROM GAMING STATES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DUCK KEY, FLORIDA
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2007
DRAFT MINUTES

The Executive Committee of the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States (NCLGS) met at the Hawk's Cay Resort in Duck Key, Florida, on Saturday, January 13, 2007, at 11:22 a.m.

Senator Steven Geller from Florida, NCLGS President, presided.

Other members of the Committee present were:

- Sen. Tom Harman, CA
- Rep. Kevin Ryan, CT
- Rep. Helene Keeley, DE
- Rep. Vincent Lofink, DE
- Rep. Bill Oberle, DE
- Rep. Pamela Thornburg, DE
- Sen. Richard Lerblance, OK
- Rep. Steven Cappelli, PA
- Rep. Chris Sainato, PA
- Rep. Tim Solobay, PA

Other legislators present were:

- Rep. John Viola, DE

Others present were:

- Susan Nolan, Nolan Associates, NCLGS Executive Director
- Nicholas Brozean, Nolan Associates, NCLGS Assistant Legislative Coordinator

MINUTES

The Committee voted unanimously to accept, as submitted, the minutes of its June 2, 2006, meeting in Boston, Massachusetts.

ADMINISTRATION

Sen. Geller said that Ms. Nolan, NCLGS Executive Director, had hired an additional staff person, Mr. Nicholas Brozean, to assist in NCLGS research and committee support.

FUTURE SITES

Sen. Geller said the next NCLGS meeting would be held at the Rio All Suite Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas from June 8 through 10, 2007.

Rep. Bill Oberle, NCLGS Vice President, said meeting in Arizona could serve well as a Winter Meeting since a number of new members have not had the opportunity to experience a trip to an Indian reservation on a NCLGS site visit.

Sen. Geller said California also has many Indian tribes. He said a number of tribes have hotels on-site and have offered them as venues for future NCLGS meetings. He said if the organization wants a better understanding of tribal life, NCLGS also could meet on the West coast.

Sen. Geller said New Mexico was also suggested as a future meeting site. He said Mohegan Sun or Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut might also be a place of interest for a NCLGS Summer Meeting. He said Tucson or Phoenix, home of the Gila River Tribe, would be favorable places for future sites, but that NCLGS prefers to meet in member states.

Sen. Tom Harman said Pechanga Band of Mission Indians is a tribe that exists outside Los Angeles, California, where NCLGS could meet. He said Napa, California, might also be another meeting destination that would spur attendance.

DUES/MEMBERSHIP

Ms. Nolan reported that dues collection was progressing successfully. She said state dues are currently \$3000, which is a minimal amount.

Ms. Nolan reported that Minnesota and New York had expressed interest in NCLGS membership.

Sen. Geller said other possible member states are Mississippi, Kentucky, and Washington.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Sen. Geller said that attendance at the meeting was approximately 150.

Rep. Oberle noted that private organizations have asked about a public-private partnership in conjunction with NCLGS. He said industry completely understands NCLGS is a legislative group and industry will not get a voting voice in the organization.

Sen. Geller said that a sister organization of NCLGS, the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL), has a policy where industry members have formed their own corporation, which meets at NCOIL meetings. He said they pay dues annually and receive a reduced registration rate in effect.

Ms. Nolan said the industry group, called the Industry Education Council (IEC), attends NCOIL meetings and supports NCOIL educational efforts with grants and suggestions for panel discussion topics at NCOIL meetings.

Ms. Nolan said much information in NCOIL's website is closed off to non-member states. She said NCLGS might want to consider doing something similar in the future to ensure that NCLGS membership contains value.

FINANCIALS

Ms. Nolan said NCLGS financials and the NCLGS Foundation show improvement over those of last year.

The committee voted to accept the financials

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON LOTTERIES

Rep. Kevin Ryan, acting chair of the Committee, reported that the Committee had:

- received an update on lottery initiatives in the states
- received a report on lottery scams and NASPL mitigation efforts
- received an update on NASPL standard development and a NCLGS-NASPL lottery advertising survey
- received a report on impact of VLT handle on ticket sales and impact of federal internet gaming legislation on lotteries

Rep. Ryan said the Committee meeting was well attended and very informative.

Sen. Geller said the lottery advertising survey would be very helpful to state lotteries in that it shows an impact on sales when lottery budgets are cut.

RESPONSIBLE GAMING COMMITTEE

Rep. Chris Sainato, chair of the Committee, reported that the Committee had:

- received an update on state & industry responsible gaming initiatives
- received a report on use of internet to deliver responsible gaming
- received an overview of responsible gaming machine modifications
- received a report on new approaches to self-exclusion

Rep. Sainato said Mr. Whyte did a great job capturing attention and providing information that was easily understood on a complex subject. He said problem gambling continues to raise attention in the committee and individuals enjoy participating.

Ms. Nolan said the Responsible Gaming Committee was well attended, continues to grow, and has been a great addition to the NCLGS committee structure.

COMMITTEE ON PARI-MUTUELS

Rep. Vincent Lofink, chair of the Committee, reported that the Committee had:

- adopted a resolution supporting the *Association of Racing Commissioners International* (RCI) integrity system
- received a report on innovations to increase track handle and growth patterns in racino VLT handle
- received an update on impact of smoking bans on tracks and racinos

Rep. Lofink moved to adopt the NCLGS resolution supporting the Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI) monitoring integrity system. After a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Sen. Geller, acting chair of the Committee, reported that the Committee had:

- received a report from the NCLGS Federal Bureau
- discussed the *Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006* and its impact on states
- received an update on tribal-state compact initiatives and off-reservation tribal gaming issues

GAMING 101

Sen. Geller said that the “Gaming 101” was a great success, and that numerous people attended and stayed for the entire session. He said the session occurs every two years, providing updates for new and current legislatures and attendees.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

Sen. Geller said the State-Federal Committee should review and update its tribal-state compact checklist. He recommended that future panel subjects include internet, pari-mutuel, and Indian gambling issues. He said local government attendance is key to these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.