

RESOLUTION NO. 130-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 13 TO PHASE OUT THE CRUELTY OF COMMERCIAL GREYHOUND RACING BY DECEMBER 2020 AND DECOUPLE LIVE RACING FROM OTHER FORMS OF GAMBLING IN FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, commercial greyhound racing is a dying industry in the United States and Florida hosts eleven of the remaining seventeen American dog tracks; and

WHEREAS, public opposition to commercial greyhound racing is increasing due to both humane and economic concerns; and

WHEREAS, 70% of Florida voters will support Amendment 13 to end commercial greyhound racing on November 6 according to a 2018 statewide survey by McLaughlin and Associates; and

WHEREAS, state records show that a greyhound dies on average every three days at a Florida racetrack; and

WHEREAS, in the one Florida jurisdiction that requires public disclosure, Seminole County, 73 injuries have been reported, including 55 broken bones and four deaths; and

WHEREAS, the state Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering reports more than 400 greyhound drug positives, including 68 cocaine-positive since 2008; and

WHEREAS, at Florida tracks, thousands of greyhounds are kept inside warehouse-style kennels, in small cages barely large enough for the dogs to stand up or turn around; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 13 specifies a twenty-six-month phase-out to allow for the safe transition of racing greyhounds into loving homes; and

WHEREAS, a report commissioned by the Florida Legislature in 2013 documented that the state loses up to \$3.3 million a year on live greyhound racing because the cost of regulation exceeds tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, the economic decline of greyhound racing is expected to continue; and

WHEREAS, the State's mandate for live racing as a platform for other, more profitable forms of gambling is contrary to free market principles and costs Florida dog tracks \$34 million each year combined; and

WHEREAS, ending commercial greyhound racing will not lead to the expansion of gambling in any way.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are hereby confirmed and ratified.

Section 2. That the City of Delray Beach hereby declares its support of proposed constitutional Amendment 13 to phase-out the cruelty of commercial greyhound racing, repeal the statutory live racing mandate, which will have no impact on other forms of gambling.

Section 3. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shelly Petrolia, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katerri Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY.

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R. Max Lohman, City Attorney