

CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, 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 EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 & 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, 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-positives 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; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Margate find that it is in the best interest of the residents to end commercial greyhound racing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA:

Section 1: The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are adopted herein.

Section 2: The City Commission of the City of Margate, Florida, hereby supports proposed constitutional Amendment 13 to Phase-Out Commercial Greyhound Racing and Decouple Live Racing from Other Forms of Gambling.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to each municipality in Broward County.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

ATTEST:

JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH
CITY CLERK

MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ

RECORD OF VOTE

Peerman	_____
Simone	_____
Ruzzano	_____
Caggiano	_____
Schwartz	_____