

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-2066

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF
SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, URGING THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO REJECT ANY
AND ALL EXPANSIONS OF GAMBLING IN
FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, by Resolution 11-2034 The Town Commission directed the Town Manager and the Town Attorney to investigate and research methods to prevent gambling in Miami- Dade County and specifically the Town of Surfside; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature continues to consider various measures that would provide for the substantial expansion of gambling and potentially allow for casino operations that rival in size and scope the gambling operations that exist in Las Vegas and Atlantic City; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the assurances of gambling promoters, historically, large scale casino operations cannibalize non-gambling businesses causing, for instance, the shuttering of forty percent of all restaurants and one-third of all retail businesses in Atlantic City; and

WHEREAS, if located near or in Surfside, the community will have to bear the severe and painful economic and social costs that always accompany expansive gambling, including reached consequences such as the misery of individuals and families touched by problem gambling as they are at higher risk of divorce, bankruptcy, child abuse, domestic violence, crime, and suicide; and

WHEREAS, expanded gambling may also bring corruption of the governmental process as immensely wealthy gambling companies from all over the world seek to receive benefits from the local and state governments that regulate their existence and profits; and

WHEREAS, the Town believes that should gambling interests be allowed to obtain major casino expansion, in addition to social issues, the quality of life will be denigrated by the enormous exacerbation of traffic and the potential destruction of otherwise commercially viable businesses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager and Town Attorney believe this issue will be pre-empted by the State and therefore the best course of action at this particular time is to direct a resolution from the Town urging the Florida Legislature to reject the expansion of gambling in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission believes that if the Florida Legislature approves the substantial expansion of gambling, then any gambling casino in Miami Dade County be required to be approved through referendum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Town of Surfside, Florida urges the Florida Legislature to reject any and all expansions of gambling, including legislation to legalize so-called "destination casinos" in Florida.

Section 2. Implementation. The Mayor and the Town Manager are hereby authorized to take any and all action necessary to implement this Resolution.

Section 3. Direction to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Florida Legislature.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

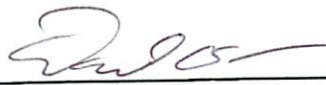
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of January, 2012.

Motion by Mayor Dietch, second by Commissioner Karukin

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION

Commissioner Michael Karukin
Commissioner Edward Kopelman
Commissioner Marta Olchyk
Vice Mayor Joseph Graubart
Mayor Daniel Dietch

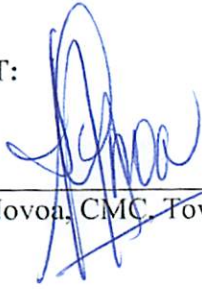
yes
Absent
yes
yes
yes



Daniel Dietch, Mayor

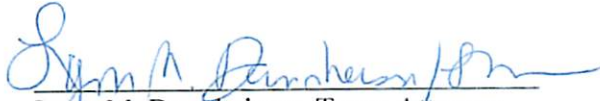
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ATTEST:



Sandra Novoa, CMC, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR
THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:



Lynn M. Dannheisser, Town Attorney

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