



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



O2012-2236

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	4/18/2012
Sponsor(s):	Mendoza, Susana A. (Clerk)
Type:	Ordinance
Title:	Amendment of Title 8-12-010 of Municipal Code regarding gambling
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Workforce Development and Audit

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

The Honorable Susana A. Mendoza
City Clerk
City of Chicago
121 N. LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear City Clerk Mendoza:

As a resident of the City of Chicago, please accept the following ordinance to be submitted on my behalf in front of the Chicago City Council. *Please refer to the Committee*

A. Finance
I look forward to a discussion and hearings on the matter.

Sincerely, *John Coyle*

John Coyle
Carpenters Local 141

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Amendment to Chicago Gaming Ordinance

Whereas, the City of Chicago (the “City”) is a home rule unit of government pursuant to the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6(a); and

Whereas, the City Council is resolved to continue the City’s historic legacy as a world leader in commerce and economic opportunity, travel and tourism, transportation and world class infrastructure, and to do so will require ongoing investment in the City’s assets; and

Whereas, in 2009 the Illinois General Assembly passed a capital construction plan (“Capital Plan”), for the first time in ten years, with overwhelming statewide bi-partisan support; and

Whereas, once fully funded, the Capital Plan provides \$31 billion in construction funds for roads, bridges, transit, schools, health care and other critical investment projects; and

Whereas, a fully funded Capital Plan is estimated to create and sustain more than 439,000 jobs across the state; and

Whereas, the Capital Plan is funded through various revenue sources, with its primary revenue source deriving from a new, state-managed video gaming system as set forth in the Video Gaming Act (the “VGA”);

Whereas, revenue generated under the VGA represents approximately 30 percent of the revenue needed to fund the Capital Plan; and

Whereas, a fully funded Capital Plan will provide critical infrastructure projects and needed funding, including:

- More than \$1 billion for key City road and freight rail projects
- Nearly \$1 billion for the Chicago Transit Authority
- \$600 million for Chicago Public Schools Construction
- \$272 million for Chicago-based City Colleges and state funded universities; and

Whereas, a lack of funding for the Capital Plan will result in critical infrastructure projects benefiting City residents being delayed or abandoned; and

Whereas, a lack of funding for the Capital Plan will leave thousands of Chicago members of the construction and building trades unemployed and foster the deterioration of key public assets; and

Whereas, the VGA provides for significantly enhanced law enforcement oversight and control of gambling by eliminating the estimated 60,000 video gaming terminals that currently operate in locations across the state and within the City of Chicago without any oversight; and

Whereas, all video gaming terminals permitted under the VGA will be tied into a central system monitored and regulated by the Illinois Gaming Board, and possession of non-authorized machines will be a Class 4 felony; and

Whereas, all participants in the new state-regulated video gaming industry will be licensed and undergo intense background checks and screening; and

Whereas, under the VGA, municipalities retain 5% of revenue collected from operation of the video gaming terminals which will provide relief for Chicago taxpayers from an even greater tax burden; and

Whereas, the Illinois Gaming Board has already begun issuing licenses under the VGA and expects operations and revenue generation beginning in 2012; and

Whereas, the City and its businesses should pursue all opportunities for revenue, investment and employment whenever possible; and

Whereas, an additional opportunity to enhance the economic development of the City, local businesses and thousands of working men and women will result from the establishment of a state-licensed, land-based casino within the City.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

Section 8-12-010 of the Municipal Code of Chicago shall be amended as follows:

8-12-010 Gambling prohibited.

No person shall play or engage in faro, roulette, or gambling for money or other valuable thing, or in any other device or game of chance, hazard, or skill, either as bookmaker, dealer, keeper, player, or otherwise, for the purpose of gaming or gambling for money or other valuable thing. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit, prevent or restrict: (i) eleemosynary, religious or charitable institutions from conducting raffles, the proceeds of which benefit persons by enhancing their opportunity for religious or educational advancement; by relieving or protecting them from disease, suffering or distress; by contributing to their physical wellbeing*; by assisting them in establishing themselves in life as worthy and useful citizens; or by increasing their comprehension of and devotion to the principles upon which this nation was founded; or (ii) any person from playing, engaging in or conducting gaming or gambling for money or other valuable thing or owning, maintaining or transporting any gaming or gambling device pursuant to the Illinois Video Gaming Act, 230 ILCS 40/1 et seq., as the same may be hereafter amended or any statute hereafter enacted or amended by the State of Illinois authorizing a land based casino in the city.