

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ESTIMATING CONFERENCE**  
**SUMMARY OF INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT**  
***VOTER CONTROL OF GAMBLING IN FLORIDA (15-22)***

The proposed amendment would prohibit certain activities defined as “casino gambling” unless they are authorized by a constitutional amendment approved by voters through the citizens’ initiative petition process. The proposed amendment is not expected to affect the authority of the state to enter into compacts addressing gambling on tribal lands pursuant to the Federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

- The amendment’s impact on state and local government revenues, if any, cannot be determined at this time because there are a number of uncertainties regarding the effect of the amendment on currently authorized gambling activities which have not been authorized pursuant to a citizens’ initiative. The primary uncertainty is whether the amendment’s effects will be prospective only or also retrospective. In this context, the term “prospective” means that the casino gambling activities that have been authorized prior to the effective date of the amendment will not be affected. The term “retrospective” means that casino gambling activities authorized at the time the amendment is adopted will have to cease unless they have been authorized pursuant to a citizens’ initiative.
- Further uncertainties exist regarding the extent to which currently authorized casino gambling activities may be affected by the amendment. Ongoing litigation and administrative hearings complicate the determination of what types of casino gambling activities would be “currently authorized” as of the effective date of the amendment.
- There is no revenue impact if the amendment is deemed to be only prospective in its application. The revenue impact, if any, would come from a retrospective application of the amendment which de-authorizes certain gambling operations or games that are currently subject to taxes or fees. To the extent this occurs, behavioral changes that lead to the shifting of one type of gambling activity for another taxable activity would mitigate the loss.
- The amendment does not directly require or prohibit an expenditure by state or local government, but there may be an indirect effect from its implementation. If the amendment is determined to have only a prospective application, it will have no impact on anticipated government costs. However, if it is determined that the amendment de-authorizes certain gambling operations or games that are currently allowed, costs of regulating casino gambling activities may be reduced, and the loss of tax revenues may cause some appropriations reductions.