

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY SENATOR MILLS

GAMING. Encourages the Louisiana Lottery Corporation to create a new lottery ticket.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the Louisiana Lottery Corporation to create a new lottery ticket for the benefit of soldiers and veterans.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Lottery Corporation LLC administers a state run lottery, which was founded as a way of generating revenue without increasing taxes; and

WHEREAS, lottery players risk a small amount of money against very long odds to win a large prize, with the net proceeds going to the public good; and

WHEREAS, giving the population of veterans in Louisiana and the support Louisiana has historically given its soldiers, any contribution from the Lottery would be deemed a public good; and

WHEREAS, there is no institution in the world that commands such unwavering respect as the United States Military; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 319,000 veterans living in the state of Louisiana as of the last study conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in 2012 which is approximately ten percent of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, there is a running joke in the Army that everyone in the Army must be from Louisiana, and there is truth found in this humor; and

WHEREAS, in a study done by the Heritage Foundation, the West South Central

1 region comprised of Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas had a military enlisted
2 recruit-to-population ratio of 1.26 to 1.35 for every ten citizens in this region which actually
3 is considered an over representation when compared to other regions; and

4 WHEREAS, nearly one-quarter of all homeless adults have served in the armed
5 forces; and

6 WHEREAS, the VA has estimated that on any given night there are approximately
7 76,000 homeless veterans sleeping on American streets; and

8 WHEREAS, veterans face a multitude of health issues either unique to their service
9 or more frequent among them than the general population; and

10 WHEREAS, some of the health issues they encounter include: musculoskeletal
11 injuries and pain, mental health issues, chemical exposure, infectious diseases, noise and
12 vibration exposure, traumatic brain injury, and urological injuries; and

13 WHEREAS, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US (VFW) is the official nonprofit
14 organization for United States military veterans; and

15 WHEREAS, VFW works on behalf of American veterans by lobbying Congress for
16 better veteran health care and benefits and maintains employees nationwide and volunteers
17 to assist veterans with their VA disability claims; and

18 WHEREAS, VFW provides facilities for local chapter members to fellowship and
19 partake in a myriad of activities with their fellow brothers-in-arms; and

20 WHEREAS, many of these facilities are in need of repair and updates to
21 accommodate the growing veteran population; and

22 WHEREAS, it is of utmost importance to provide housing, adequate healthcare
23 treatment facilities, and recreational facilities for those that have put or were willing to put
24 their life on the line for the country that they love; and

25 WHEREAS, these soldiers have represented the state of Louisiana with honor and
26 dignity across the world in every major armed combat initiative; and

27 WHEREAS, funding from a special lottery ticket designated for the purpose of
28 assisting with the construction and/or renovation of veteran housing and medical facilities,
29 and repair of VFW buildings would go a long way in the fight to take care of those who fight
30 America's battles abroad and protect our nation's sovereignty; and

1 WHEREAS, a lottery ticket devoted to veterans would allow the citizens of
2 Louisiana to contribute to the veterans that they love and respect while taking part in one of
3 their favorite pastimes, which is playing lottery games.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
5 urge the Louisiana Lottery Corporation to create a new lottery ticket for the benefit of
6 Soldiers and Veterans.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
8 board of directors and the president of the Louisiana Lottery Corporation.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

DIGEST

Mills

SCR No. 7

Urges the Louisiana Lottery Corporation to create a new lottery ticket for the benefit of
soldiers and veterans.