

1979

RESOLUTION: ABOLITION OF STATE LICENSED AND OPERATED GAMBLING

WHEREAS it is immoral for the State to encourage gambling by the high powered advertising of state-operated and licensed gambling operations which have an especially strong impact on younger bettors who, studies show, are most susceptible to gambling additions, and

WHEREAS legalized gambling has little deterrent effect on illegal gambling, which is at an all-time high, and "numbers" continues to be a "major source of income for organized crime," which has moved into Connecticut to take advantage of the new gambling fever fostered by state-operated and licensed gambling; and

WHEREAS the disproportionate number of the poor and minorities are induced to engage in state-operated and licensed gambling, often expend funds from state assistance checks, and

WHEREAS the National Gambling Commission confirms that lotteries are regressive, and

WHEREAS multiple scandals have developed in the lottery, dog racing and jai lai frontons, leading Governor Ella Grasso to establish a commission to study the State Gaming Commission, and to the establishment of a grand jury to probe lottery bonus drawings, and

WHEREAS contrary to regulations, gaming employees in the frontons bet illegally, and at times with large sums of out-of-state bettors, and out-of-state fronton owners receive exorbitant profits, and

WHEREAS the lottery is an exceptionally inefficient source of revenue requiring 32¢ in expenses for each dollar of net revenue,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ urge the abolishment of state-operated and licensed gambling.