## NCLGS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NCLGS APPROVES RESOLUTION ON RESPONSIBLE GAMING AND THE INTERNET

**Hollywood, FL, January 12, 2014**—Lawmakers at the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States (NCLGS) Winter Meeting, here today, voted unanimously in favor of a *Resolution Supporting Internet Responsible Gaming Standards*. The resolution, which was vetted at the NCLGS Committee on Responsible Gaming, is part of an ongoing effort by NCLGS to promote public awareness regarding problem gaming and support efforts to mitigate the negative social consequences of gaming thorough education, research, prevention, and treatment programs.

According to NCLGS President Rep. Jim Waldman (FL), "As nearly a dozen states are likely to consider Internet gambling in 2014, the NCLGS resolution will help ensure that problem gaming issues are at the center of policy discussion. Given the general pervasiveness of the Internet and its relative newness as a platform for legalized gambling in the U.S., it is important that states work together to understand the potential social ramifications of Internet gambling and ensure that vulnerable populations are adequately protected."

The resolution commends the efforts of the National Council of Problem Gambling (NCPG), the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG), the North American State and Provincial Lottery Association Committee on Responsible Gaming, and others in researching and developing innovative approaches to minimize Internet gambling addiction. The resolution urges cooperation among legislators, regulators, and problem gaming experts in order to develop strong responsible gaming programs in coordination with any efforts to enact Internet gaming legislation.

NCLGS is the only non-partisan organization of state lawmakers that meets on a regular basis to discuss issues in regard to gaming. NCLGS does not support or oppose gaming, but supports effective regulation and believes that decisions related to gaming should be made by the citizens of the individual states and their elected officials. More information is available at <u>www.nclgs.org</u>.

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