

Four Important Reasons

To PROTECT OUR NEBRASKA CONSTITUTION

AGAINST GAMBLING EXPANSION

1. More Gambling = HIGHER TAXES

- Since casinos opened, Council Bluffs has raised taxes 3 times. ¹
(property taxes twice and created a sales tax)
- Economists conclude that casino gambling creates \$3.00 in social costs for every \$1.00 in tax revenue generated. ²

2. More Gambling = MORE MONEY LEAVING THE STATE

- A 2002 Omaha Chamber of Commerce study found that just one casino in Omaha would result in a 66% increase in Nebraska gambling losses and take \$62 million more out of the State's economy than is leaving now. ³

3. More Gambling = INCREASED CRIME AND ADDICTION

- Three years after casinos, Council Bluffs had the highest crime rate in Iowa, ⁴ and in 2004 its region saw the highest growth in bankruptcies in the U.S. ⁵
- Bankruptcy rates in counties with casinos are 18% higher than those without casinos. ⁶
- An Iowa study in 1989 showed that 1.7% of Iowans had gambling addiction problems. Repeated in 1996, after tribal casinos opened, it showed a jump to 5.4%. (150,000) ⁷
- Two years after slot machines were introduced in Deadwood, South Dakota, the reports of child abuse rose 42%, reports of domestic violence and assaults increased by 80%. ⁸ and DWI's increased by 70%. ⁹

4. More Gambling = ECONOMIC CANNIBALISM

- From 1996 to 2000 retail sales in mid-sized Iowa cities without casinos grew at a rate over 5 times faster than that of similar Iowa cities with casinos - 17% vs. 3%.

1: Omaha World Herald 3/12/02, 2: John W. Kindt, Ph.D., Congressional Gambling Hearing 1994, & Earl Grinols, Ph.D., "Gambling in America", Cambridge University Press, 2004 3: Ernest Goss, Ph.D., Creighton Univer. For the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce 2002. 4: OWH 12/8/99, 5: Des Moines Register 3/24/02, 6: SMR Research Corp. "The Personal Bankruptcy Crisis", 1997, 7: Rachel Volberg, Gemini Research for the Iowa Dept. of Human Services 1995, 8: Drake Law Review, Vol. 43, 1994; 9: Blumberg, States Attorney, Deadwood, South Dakota; 10: Based on statistics from Iowa State University. Department of Economics 2001

Information provided by:

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Revised 8-16-2004