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INITIATIVE PETITION
Amendment to the Constitution
Proposed by Initiative Petition
To be submitted directly to the electors

Amendment

Title. An Amendment to the Ohio Constitution to authorize a single casino within each of the cities of Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Toledo. The tax revenue from these four casino facilities will be used to: bolster Ohio's economy; provide funding to support local communities and school districts across the state; provide job training for Ohio's workforce and law enforcement; and provide funding to support strong gaming oversight and regulation.

SUMMARY

The Amendment to be enacted by amending Article XV, Section 6 of the Ohio Constitution will:

- Authorize a single casino at a designated location within each of the cities of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Toledo.
- Require the State of Ohio to impose and collect a thirty-three percent (33%) tax on gross casino revenue from each of these four casino facilities while providing the tax commissioner and a newly established Ohio Casino Control Commission with examination authority for the purposes of tax collection.
- In addition to the gross casino revenue tax, require that all casino operators of the four casino facilities will be subject to all customary non-discriminatory fees, taxes, and other charges that are generally imposed upon other Ohio businesses, their gross or net revenues, their operations, their owners, and their property. No other casino gaming-related fees, taxes, or other charges may be imposed upon gross casino revenue, casino operators, their operations, their owners, their property, or their patrons.
- Require each initial licensed casino operator of each of these four casino facilities to pay an upfront license fee of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) to the state to support job training programs for Ohio's workforce for a total of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000).
- Require each initial licensed casino operator of each of these four casino facilities to make an investment of at least two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) in the development of their casino facilities for a total minimum investment of one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) statewide.
- Distribute the proceeds of the tax on gross casino revenue from each casino as follows:
 - (1) 51% among all 88 counties in proportion to such counties' respective populations at the time of such distribution. Half of each county's distribution shall go to its largest city, but only if that city's population is greater than 80,000 as of the 2000 U.S. census.
 - (2) 34% among all 88 counties in proportion to such counties' respective public school district student populations at the time of such distribution which will be distributed by each county to all public school districts in such county. Each public school district shall determine how its distributions are appropriated, but all distributions shall only be used to support primary and secondary education.
 - (3) 5% to casino host cities.
 - (4) 3% to fund the Ohio Casino Control Commission.
 - (5) 3% to an Ohio State Racing Commission fund to support purses, breeding programs and operations at the existing commercial horse racetracks. No funding shall be distributed to operations of an Ohio

commercial horse racetrack if an owner or operator of the racetrack holds a majority interest in an Ohio casino facility or in an Ohio casino license.

(6) 2% to a state fund for training opportunities for Ohio's law enforcement community.

(7) 2% to a state fund for the treatment of problem gambling, substance abuse and related research.

- Provide that tax collection, and distributions to school districts and local governments, under this Amendment, are intended to supplement, not supplant, any funding obligations of the state.
- Establish the Ohio Casino Control Commission to license and regulate casino gaming, casino operators of these four casino facilities, management companies retained by such casino operators, key employees of such casino operators and such management companies, and gaming-related vendors, to ensure the integrity of casino gaming.
- Require the General Assembly to pass laws within six months of the effective date of the Amendment to facilitate the operation of the Amendment.
- Require that casino gaming be conducted only by authorized casino operators of these four casino facilities or by licensed management companies retained by such casino operators.
- Allow casino gaming to be conducted twenty-four hours each day as determined by the casino operator for each casino facility.
- Provide that each casino operator for each casino facility shall determine the total number of slot machines in their facility, but there shall be no more than five thousand slot machines per casino facility.
- Allow at these four casino facilities the types of slot machine and table game wagering currently authorized in, and any future slot machine and table game wagering authorized in, any of the neighboring states of Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.
- Provide that each of these four casino facilities will be subject to all applicable health and building laws and ordinances and related requirements; provided that no local zoning or land use laws shall prohibit the development or operation of the casino facilities, but, provided further, that no casino facility may be located in a district zoned residential as of January 1, 2009.
- Provide definitions for the following terms: casino facility, casino gaming, casino operator, gross casino revenue, majority interest, slot machines, and table game.

CERTIFICATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The certification of the Attorney General, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3519.01(A), will be inserted when it is provided. This initial petition must be submitted with at least one thousand (1,000) valid signatures of Ohio electors before the Attorney General will issue that certification.

COMMITTEE TO REPRESENT THE PETITIONERS

The following people are designated as the committee to represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the petition or its circulation:

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