



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

December 9, 2009

Honorable Therese Murray
Senate President
Massachusetts Senate
Room 332
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Honorable Robert A. DeLeo
Speaker of the House
Mass. House of Representatives
Room 356
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Terry and Bob,

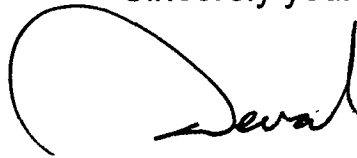
On Monday I met with a group called "United to Stop Slots (USS)," a coalition of community groups and civic organizations opposed to expanded gaming in Massachusetts. Knowing my past support for up to three resort-style destination casinos in the Commonwealth, they wanted to express their economic and ethical concerns directly to me. We had a very thoughtful discussion, which Senator Sue Tucker joined. As the Legislature considers its approach to the question, you may find it useful to hear them out as well.

One of the ideas they proposed was for a fresh, independent and transparent analysis of the benefits and costs of expanded gaming. If the strongest case for moving in this direction is for the jobs created and the potential revenue to be derived through an expanded tourist trade, as we have discussed, there may be merit in updating the forecasts of economic benefit and human impact on which we relied when the administration filed its proposal last year. Again, as you consider your approach, I commend the USS coalition's proposal to you for your consideration.

Senate President Therese Murray
Speaker Robert DeLeo
December 9, 2009
Page Two

To be sure, the coalition is opposed to any expansion of gaming in the Commonwealth, even in the limited form we proposed last year. While I am not there, as you know, the conversation confirmed in my mind that slot parlors, "racinos" or any other form of convenience gambling is not something I can support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DeLeo", with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

cc: Chairs, Economic Development Committee