PRESS RELEASE

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Family Council Action Committee Opposes Casino Ballot Proposal

In a statement on Thursday, Family Council Action Committee President Jerry Cox expressed serious concern over a ballot proposal to allow seven casino gambling establishments in the State of Arkansas.

Cox said: "Casino gambling hurts local economies. Casinos absorb the money that people would otherwise spend on everything from groceries and gasoline to new cars and houses, and when that happens, local businesses suffer and so do the folks working for them. In a time when many Arkansans are still working hard to try to make ends meet, the last thing we need to do is open our state up to casino gambling."

"We already have casino gambling at Oaklawn and Southland. The lottery has been rolling out a steady stream of new games left and right since its establishment. And now we have a wealthy businessman from out of state trying to set up a gambling monopoly and fleece the people out of their hard-earned money. Where does it end? At what point will we have 'enough' gambling in Arkansas?"

"This is nothing more than one gambling business asking to be enshrined in the Arkansas Constitution and given special privileges," Cox said. "That's not the way our government is supposed to operate."

The ballot name and title were approved yesterday by Attorney General Dustin McDaniel on behalf of Michael Wasserman, the proposal's sponsor, and his corporation, Arkansas Hotels and Entertainment, Inc. Should this proposal get enough signatures from Arkansas voters, it would—barring any complications—be placed on the general election ballot in 2012 for voters to either approve of disapprove.

Cox said his group will continue to monitor and oppose any efforts to amend Arkansas' constitution to allow more gambling in Arkansas.

Family Council Action Committee is a 501(c)(4) political action organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

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