

Price, Richard

From: gary z <garysasso@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:48 AM
To: pstestimony
Subject: Proposal to expand casino gambling in Connecticut

My Name is Gary Sasso, I have been a resident of Connecticut practically all of my life. I remember in the early 1990's when the Connecticut Native Americans received tribal recognition from the federal government and sought to establish casino gambling on their reservation. I remember then Governor Lowell Weicker threatened to veto any Native Casino Gambling bill. At that time I felt a strong sense of obligation to assist the Native Americans who lost so much of their land and culture from European settlers who came to Connecticut. I personally met with the Connecticut legislators and requested they support Casino gambling in Connecticut. As we know, not one but two Casinos were built and have been in operation. Local jobs were created building, staffing and maintaining them. slowly however, those in charge of staffing Casino's began to employ foreign workers and gradually replaced many of the locally hired U.S. born service workers with imported non-American Born workers, thereby increasing Connecticut unemployment in those areas of the state.

I am opposed to any public funding to support studying, building or financing, tax-credits for any additional casinos in Connecticut. (see Courant article titled, Thefts Feed a Casino Habit August 23, 2000By LYN BIXBY; Courant Staff Writer) I feel that based on past history with casino gambling's negative affects on our citizens, and those from surrounding state's it's a bad idea to expand gambling in Connecticut. Our elected officials should look to more sustainable methods to create good paying working and middle class jobs. I suggest investing in re-manufacturing in this state. One needs to only look at the Chinese Economy to see how manufacturing has taking their country from an essentially an village farming society into an industrial powerhouse. The time to propose unsustainable service sector proposals to create jobs and raise tax revenues funded by taxpayers MUST come to an end! These proposals like adding more casinos in Connecticut are robbing from Peter to pay Paul. Ultimately to poorest and most vulnerable citizens will squander their meager incomes and forego basic necessities to support their Casino gambling addictions.

Sincerely Gary Sasso