

3/08/2017

Theresa Saletnik  
88A Tromley RD  
East Windsor, CT 06088

Dear Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly,

My name is Theresa Saletnik, I live in East Windsor, CT, I am opposing bills S.B.957: An Act Concerning the Regulation of Gaming and the Authorization of a Casino Gaming Facility in the State and opposing H.B.7239: An Act Providing for the Regulation of Gaming to Protect Public Safety and a Competitive Process to Issue a Gaming License.

This issue is important to me because I live in the town of East Windsor and bought a house here back in 1999, BECAUSE the town is a quiet country town, close enough to everything, but still secluded.

I am concerned about the traffic the casino will bring in. I deal with the traffic on Route 5 every day at rush hour, and when Southern Auto has their auctions on Wednesdays, it's a nightmare. Adding more traffic to an exit that is deemed "great to use" now that it was upgraded for when 24 hour Walmart came in, is so untrue. Traffic is always backed up on to the highway at rush hour. People will also use Route 5 or Route 140, eventually causing congestion on those, as well. This will be the common theme at all times of the day if the casino does bring in business, especially on weekends.

The biggest thing that bugs me is that they are saying building in East Windsor will keep the people from going to Springfield. Are you kidding me? This is not a solution to keeping the money in Connecticut. People will NOT go to East Windsor if they can drive 10 more minutes to Springfield and have a whole night life there, in the city, where it belongs.

The only money that will go into this casino, or any other casino in the Hartford area, is that town's resident's money, mostly the elderly, and some Connecticut residents in the surrounding towns. Now Connecticut makes no money, because all that's happening is the money is just getting recycled. There is no NEW money from other states coming in and Connecticut loses. How no one can see this, I have no idea.

All the grand gestures of extra money, jobs, taxes, and so on, do not outweigh the detriment to the infrastructure of any town. Prices of houses will go down, people with gambling addictions who have no money, will gamble to hopefully fix their situations and we all know this is not a fix. The jobs that will be available will probably not be full time jobs and also not high paying jobs.

And another thing that could happen is that the casino in East Windsor is a complete flop, then where does it leave the East Windsor residents, when they pull out and leave? Building casinos is not the answer to Connecticut's problems. Connecticut casinos are already not making the money they use to when they first opened, how is opening another casino going to really change that?

In closing I would like to thank the Committee for taking the time to read this, and I will once again state that I am opposed to these bills S.B.957 and H.B.7239.

Sincerely,

Theresa Saletnik

A Concerned East Windsor resident