
From: Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2021 3:40 PM
To: mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; Adam Brumbaugh; CTCouncil
Cc: Jennifer Snyder
Subject: Two weeks of casino-related feedback - 94% in opposition
Attachments: SC_Gaming_Late_public_comment_9-14_to_9-29_2021.pdf

Good afternoon Commissioners and College Township leadership,

Today the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) posted two weeks of casino-related feedback from our area residents. 94% of that feedback is in opposition to the casino. The two weeks of feedback cover the time frame from September 14th through September 29th.

You're likely not keeping a close eye on this casino opposition because each of you know no further public comment from you is required in the casino's license application approval process. The decision to approve or deny the casino's license application now rests solely with the seven Commissioners of the PGCB. Each of you knows that is absolutely true. The supporters of the casino are probably delighted because they firmly believe the approval of the casino's license is a done deal. They are confident that nothing can now stop the casino's grand-opening ceremony from taking place.

Bally's Corporation leadership will express both their surprise and disappointment when the PGCB votes to deny the casino license here in Centre County. That is exactly how Bally's responded when their application for a new casino in Richmond, VA was rejected by government officials on April 21st. No one in Centre County will look for that story because they'll be disappointed I didn't provide them with a link to it.

The PGCB's three most recent postings of casino-related feedback from our community shows **90%, 98% and 94% responding in opposition**, respectively. It's all available on the College Township website where you're tracking it under Casino Information.

Please post the attachment on the College Township website and include this email in the meeting packet for the next regularly scheduled College Township Council meeting. Maybe you should also choose to discuss the outpouring of casino opposition from our community instead of just mentioning some email correspondence was received about casino opposition.

Thank you for tracking this information as closely as you are!

Sincerely,
Daniel Materna
Howard, PA

To the PA Gaming Control Board,

CA-2.c.

I write to express my strong opposition to the proposal to put a casino at the Nittany Mall location in Centre County. I am not a prude, and I think entertainment is a good thing, but a casino in Centre County is just a bad idea. It is a way of preying on the weak, especially those with possible gambling addictions. The poor get poorer, and the only people who gain are developers who don't even live in our community. Centre County is a family oriented place. We need to keep it that way. Just because someone has a business proposal doesn't make it a good idea. Please reject this proposal for the sake of everyone who lives here and is trying to raise a family here.

Sincerely,

Janet Irons

330 E Waring Ave

State College PA 16801

I have lived in Centre County (Bellefonte/State College) for most of my life. I am a senior citizen. I, myself, do not gamble. CA-2.C.

I have seen much opposition to the casino that is being proposed for the Nittany Mall site. The opposition, in my opinion, is coming from self-righteous, bible-hugging people who do not realize that people are already gambling online or going out of Centre County to do so. They think they need to bring gamblers to salvation and show them the error of their ways. Hogwash!

A casino will revitalize this area and bring jobs and additional revenue to those residents and businesses close by. We all know the Nittany Mall has turned into a blight with so many businesses leaving and, for the most part, sits empty.

I AM IN FAVOR OF HAVING THE CASINO. BRING IT ON!

Joan Dunlap
Bellefonte, PA

I am very much against the Casino coming into State College. Nothing good will come from having it here. Sandra
Foukrod 169 Linger Hill In. Bellefonte Pa. CA-2.C.

Sent from my iPhone

Dear Board:

CA-2.c.

Please accept this note in support of the Board's approval of the Category 4 mini-casino license presently pending. The developers, who have deep ties to the community, have a well-crafted plan. The casino would rejuvenate an area that has seen numerous stores shutter with no other hope of revitalization.

Ignorant and elitist critics of casinos say the approval will be detrimental to our community, but research and facts show otherwise. Their criticism comes more from their snobbery towards casinos, than rational argument.

I appreciate the Board's consideration of my opinion. Looking forward to seeing a beautiful casino in Happy Valley!

Sincerely,

David

David M. McGoron, Esq.

Bellefonte, PA

814-771-1259

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed "mini-casino" at the Nittany Mall in Centre County, PA. CA 2.C.

This project will do nothing to enhance the economy or livability of the Centre Region. The few jobs created will be low pay and low in numbers. It will siphon off needed funds of residents who have dreams of striking it rich. The only ones getting rich will be the developers and owners of this enterprise. A project to make money for only a few and problems and despair for many, many more.

Please do not allow this to happen. Decline the developers proposal for the good of Centre County residents and beyond. NO Casino for Centre County.

Nick Kerlin
State College, PA 16801

Dear Director,

I stand firmly opposed to the proposed casino in State College at the Nittany Mall site. There has already been a regrettable trend in the Centre Region to flood the area with businesses that do not in any way promote a high quality of life. We certainly don't need economic development based on making money for money's sake, which clearly helps to widen the gap between rich and poor. What we need are meaningful employment opportunities for all citizens that reflect the values of our rural community. Examples are jobs that restore ravaged natural areas and those that help our neighbors with food and housing insecurity. Please reject this misguided proposal.

Sincerely,

Andrew McKinnon

118 East Blade Drive

Pa. Furnace, PA. 16865

814-222-0101

CA-2.c.

Am very much opposed to the planned casino in the old Macy's store. Casinos bring in undesirable consequences. We have too many students that would be drawn to this. Our area is a family oriented community. We do NOT need distraction.

Sent from my iPhone

I wish to oppose the SC Gaming Op Co Cat4 License for Casino gaming at the Nittany Mall. This particularly is not the time for the people of State College to have a Casino when many the past two years have lost their jobs and businesses to the circumstances of the COVID Pandemic. Frankly to the have this as an additional stressor with the likelihood of losing even more of their personal resources would only prey upon many false hopes of bringing back some stability to their lives.

Richard C Ciervo
State College

CA-2.c.

I am writing in opposition of a mini casino coming to State College.

This is NOT the place nor will it bring the mall back! This has the potential of bringing more crime and drugs.

Malls sadly are obsolete today. No anchor stores will ever be coming back to the Nittany Mall.

If this casino is safe as was stated at the August meeting, why is there a need for 24 hour surveillance? There is only one way in and out so you won't be able to enter the mall from the casino.

As for the 500 plus jobs stated, most will be the workers who build the casino. Then what?

Most of the people going will be 55 plus waiting on their SS or pension checks.

Upon friends recently visiting the same style casino in transformed Macy's store in York, the casino was awful. They wouldn't ever go back.

The only money that will go in pockets will be Ira Lubert, Bob Poole and Ara Kamajian.

Happy Valley is NOT Las Vegas and lets find a better solution for the defunct mall.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Dear PA Gaming Control Board,

CA-2.c.

As a long long-time resident of College Township, I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino.

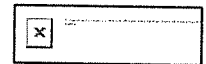
Your plan to raise tax revenue from "sin" taxes will fail on so many levels. Rather than trying to figure out how to raise revenue, why don't you figure out ways to reduce expenditures?

Allowing the operation of a Casino in the Nittany Mall will only make the rich, richer, and the poor poorer. For social and economic reasons alone, you will be taking steps backward. Our neighborhood will become blighted and we will see an increase in crime and a decrease in the value of our properties. I oppose this plan on every level and strongly encourage you to deny this casino permission to operate in my community.

On moral grounds, you are preying on the weak-minded and those who have addictive predilections. You are raising tax revenues from illicit means, and I find that morally reprehensible. Please do not condone this evil.

Sincerely,

-Ron Nargi
College Township Homeowner
State College, Pennsylvania



I'm using Secure, Encrypted cloud storage by [Tresorit](#)

My name is Justin Collins. I am writing to the PA Gaming Control Board to oppose the building of the Nittany Mall Casino. A casino will cause great harm to our community and I urge the board to oppose it.

CA 2.C.

Hello,

CA-2.c.

I write to you today about the subject, the proposed Nittany Mall Casino, and humbly request you **DO NOT GRANT the required license** for this casino proposal.

A casino will have multiple adverse effects on the local community and economy, despite the promise of quick revenues. This effect is very well documented. And one does not have to look far to find the deleterious effects of casinos on other communities.

I have lived in State College for 41 years, since I came to attend school at Penn State. It is a vibrant community, with safe and well-maintained neighborhoods. Happy Valley has a reputation for resilience to economic downturns, which is why it earned its name during the Great Depression ([Happy Valley \(Pennsylvania\) - Wikipedia](#)). We neither need nor want a casino here. On behalf of my family and community, I request you allow Happy Valley to remain untouched by the vice, corruption, and poverty-inducing influences associated with a local casino.

v/r,
Marcy Perini,
State College, PA

Dear PGCB,

CA-2.c.

Please vote no on the the proposed casino for the Nittany Mall.

This casino will only add to the already dark and destructive culture that thrives under the surface of State College and the surrounding areas.

A culture where sexual abuse, addiction, and economic depression, especially in the surrounding communities, thrives.

As a pastor in the community I see the ramifications of these 3 dark and destructive vices already at play. They tear a part marriages which leads to mental and physical anguish for men and women, and for many many children. They entrap students and destroy their futures (I know of one recent graduate who is already in \$100k of debt due to gambling). They feed a subversive culture that objectifies women and seeks to do violence against them. Sex, drugs, and money are the big 3 things that feed a casino and the life around it.

My opposition to this casino is not showing you statistics, those are plenty and build the argument by number. My opposition is anecdotal where I can tell you story after story of how abuse, addiction and depression has ravaged this community and my church and this casino will only add to those stories.

The casino will only add to the brokenness and broken lives of this community.

Vote NO.

Respectfully,

Rev. Owen Hughes
Oakwood Presbyterian Church
1865 Waddle Road
State College, PA 16803

Dear Sir or Madam:

CA-2.c.

This message is to inform you of my **opposition** to the PA Gaming Control Board (PGCB) granting a license for a new Category 4 casino to be opened at the Nittany Mall, College Township, Centre County. As a long-term resident in the Centre Region, I am greatly concerned that a casino located so close to the Borough of State College, Penn State University, and extensive local residential neighborhoods will be highly detrimental to the health, safety and well-being of these communities. It is therefore paramount that licensure be **denied** by PGCB.

Sincerely,

Nelson L. Seaman
109 Airport Road
Centre Hall, PA 16828

814-769- 6750

I would like to express my opposition over the proposed gambling casino at the Nittany Mall near State College, PA. Our town is known for wholesomeness and charm. This casino would end that. With so many young adult students in the immediate area, addiction problems are amplified, not to mention the eventual crime and blight that usually accompany casino locations. There are already plenty of casino opportunities within driving distance of our community. Please do not approve this proposal.

Susan Seaman
109 Airport Rd
Centre Hall, PA 16828
814.360.4248

--

I am writing to ask that THIS AGENDA ITEM BE DROPPED...we do not need, nor want a casino in our area.

Please do all that you can to STOP this terrible idea from gaining speed.

Thank you,

Bless you

Christine

CA-2.c.

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed casino in our area. the casino would bring gambling addiction, poverty and crime to an area that has little of these to date. it would lower the quality of life in an area where the quality of life is good.

Philip Cartey

--

Please make note of my new email address: jmcironjean@gmail.com

Hello,

CA-2.c.

I'm a resident of State College along with my family of 6. We heard about the proposal to build a casino at our local mall.

Building a casino in this area is a terrible idea. Our community is a very unique one, with low crime, many families with children, and college students.

Statistics show that where there are casinos, crime goes up. Casinos attract alcoholics, drugs, and sex trafficking.

There's no benefit to having a casino in our area fondly nicknamed, "Happy Valley" for good reason.

Please DO NOT give permission to those wishing to build a casino here!!

Thank you for reading this and taking action to protect our community,

Kirsten McTernan

Please vote NO on Military Casino application. Casinos do not contribute to a healthy community.

CA-2.c.

A casino will lower our property value and cost the Centre County residents/tax payers more in taxes to cover additional police services and social services for destroyed families.

If the stated tax revenue from the casino is about \$43,000, that will not begin to cover the cost to the community.

GAMBLING IS ADDICTIVE - people become addicted. Communities and families suffer. The addict may become mentally unstable after they have squandered the money they needed for food and shelter. Suicides and abuse will escalate.

Fewer STUDENTS FOR PENN STATE UNIVERSITY - Parents will choose a university that does not have a casino nextdoor.

Patrons to casinos lose money. Developers and owners of casinos take money out of the community.

Please do not approve a license for a casino in State College.

Jean Hill

Resident of Centre County and State College, Pennsylvania

PGCB,

CA-2.c.

We're writing to share our opinion about the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College. We oppose the introduction of a casino to our community for the following reasons.

1. According to the economists at the National Association of Realtors, the impact of casinos on neighboring property values is "unambiguously negative."
2. Evidence shows that people who live close to a casino are twice as likely to become problem gamblers as people who live more than 10 miles away. We already have enough issues in our community, due to the number of drunk & stupid incidences we see from students at Penn State.
3. Revenues from casinos have been dropping since their peaks over a decade ago. We do not believe a casino in our community will provide any financial benefit whatsoever.

For these reasons, we're asking that you deny the license for this particular casino.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kurt and Joanna Haushalter
1411 Estate Dr.
Boalsburg, PA 16827

To whom it may concern:

CA-2.c.

I am writing to vehemently oppose having a casino in my community at the Nittany Mall !!

I have been a citizen of the State College community for 25+ years and it makes me sick to see these rich soul-less casino owners manipulating our government into thinking these hell holes are a good way for the government to make money! Gambling is just another addiction, like drugs, alcohol and nicotine, that ruins people's lives every day, and will just bring pain and heartache to our community in so many ways: from college students gambling away their time and money instead of attending classes and getting their degrees, to increasing crime and our homeless population. Studies have shown that casinos are devastating to the communities in which they operate, but the damn casino-owners only care about the money they can make off of gambling addicts! Weak-minded People do NOT need another temptation in their lives that will rob them of the little money they have; it's bad enough that many of them already waste tons of their income on those stupid lottery scratch-off cards!

Please prioritize your PA citizen's lives ahead of making money for a change, do the RIGHT THING, AND DENY ANY CASINO LICENSE!

Thank you,
Marcia Perdew

Dear board members: As a concerned citizen of the State College area, I am asking that you vote down the request to issue a license for a casino to be established at the Nittany Mall in the former Macy's Department Store location. This casino will not be beneficial to the residents of our community and will only bring financial devastation to families through gambling addictions, added crime in the area and preying on already low income residents thinking they will hit the jackpot. Please vote NO to a gambling license for the Nittany Mall proposed casino.

Thank you. Mrs. Lisa Meyer--Bellefonte, PA

Sent from the Connect for Hotmail app

I am very much NOT in favor of the casino. It will bring nothing good to the area.

CA-2.c.

I would like to oppose the licensing of the Nittany Mall Casino in State College, PA.

CA-2.c.

Gambling addiction, amidst everything else that is happening in the world, is not a good idea.

As far as creating jobs, we have so many jobs around here now that cannot be filled even when paying \$15-\$20+/hr.

I vote NO,

-Jolene

Dear Sirs:

CA-2.c.

I am the spiritual advisor of a group of young Christian adults at Penn State and I am writing to ask that you reconsider your plans for the casino scheduled to be built just up the road from here at the Nittany Mall. The young people with whom I work have enough temptations in their daily lives as it is - they do not need the additional one of a "get-rich-quick" scheme opening a few short miles away. There many potential addictions that can derail the life of a young college student - sex, drugs, alcohol, etc. Let's not add "gambling" to the list. Please reconsider where you are placing this casino and the ripple effect it will have on our community.

Regards,

Matushka Seraphima Hunter, Ph.D.
Chaplain, Orthodox Christian Fellowship at Penn State
Communications Director, Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church • 119-123 S. Sparks Street • State College, PA 16801 • (814) 231-2855 • info@holytrinity-oca.org

"The Orthodox Church is evangelical, but not Protestant. It is orthodox, but not Jewish. It is catholic, but not Roman. It isn't non-denominational - it is pre-denominational. It has believed, taught, preserved, defended, and died for the Faith of the Apostles since the Day of Pentecost 2000 years ago."

Hello,

CA-2.c.

I'm writing today to voice my concern of a casino coming to the State College area. With it being so close to the Penn State campus I worry about what this would be teaching our young future generations that are looking to better their lives and our country. They are very impressionable at this age and for them to see gambling as a hobby and a way to spend their time which could very easily derail their lives. Gambling is very addictive and is no way for someone to possibly start their adulthood coming out of college.

I believe this alone is a heavy enough reason to dissuade the passing of a casino license in Centre county along with the possibility of betting and possible corruption of college sports of Penn State.

I hope you take time to seriously consider these impacts to a college town like this and to young impressionable adults just starting their lives.

Sincerely,

Ashton Immel

To Whom it May Concern:

CA-2.c.

I understand that the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board is considering public comments in advance of its decision regarding the granting of a gaming permit for the operation of Nittany Mall Casino (SC Gaming OpCo. LLC Cat 4 Casino). As a community member who lives close by, and commutes to work daily past the proposed site, I wish to express my strong opposition to the granting of such a permit.

Although local supporters may hope that the casino will revitalize our local shopping mall, the track record of casino operation historically has been the reverse. The Atlantic Monthly article provides helpful background:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/08/a-good-way-to-wreck-a-local-economy-build-casinos/375691/>

The close presence of a state University virtually ensures that many new “problem gamblers” will be created, increasing local crime and distracting many students from more positive activities.

The field work of our local College Township municipal authorities has been limited to a single mall casino site that opened in 2020, and is not reflective of the long-term problems often posed by gambling operations, and I believe they are taking a sucker’s bet.

Please use your authority to prevent this casino from opening in our community.

Sincerely,

Barry Kroeker

Bkroeker1@comcast.net

814-359-8597

The proposed Nittany Casino does not belong in the Centre Region, and in fact has significant potential to be a major detriment to the area.

The casino would represent a threat to populations within the area. For example, is the Commonwealth prepared to provide addiction services and counseling to those among Centre County's approximately 48,000 college students, vulnerable to gambling addiction, who spend time at the casino instead of at school? Similarly, who will bail out the County's numerous senior citizens, already strapped for cash, when they lose their food and housing money to gambling?

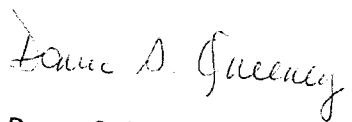
Proponents of the proposed College Township Casino recently cited "350-400 new jobs" as one reason Centre Countians should welcome the casino. Centre County has a shortage of workers, not jobs. "Help wanted" signs have proliferated throughout the area as businesses, hospitals, schools, government offices, retirement communities, and others are severely struggling with serious staff shortages.

Yes, Nittany Casino would make some of our wealthy citizens wealthier—the investors. How much better the region would be if the likes of investors Ira Lupert, Ara Kervandjian, and Robert Poole would use their resources for the benefit of the community. Our excellent social service organizations offer numerous opportunities for such.

Please do not grant approval for the propose Nittany Casino.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Donna S. Queeney, Ph.D.

State College, Pennsylvania

I strongly object the licensing of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College, Pennsylvania. With the close proximity to the Penn State campus it would be a grave temptation to the students that could damage their education and ultimately their futures. Also with our economy in such an unstable place, it would only add to the government assistance burden that is now upon us. Please veto their request for a license.

Sincerely,

Jack and Sandy Quick

Centre County Residents

Sent from my iPhone

Friends,

CA-2.c.

I remember when I was a young student in junior high school living in the Penns Valley area, and the Nittany Mall was the happening place. I saw it again, still in its heyday, when I was an undergrad at Penn State. Now, more than 40 years later, having moved back into the area, I realize it's not what it used to be. If I owned the place, I would be looking for a way to revitalize it. I get all that. I get the fact that a casino in the mall will generate a lot of revenue. I have no argument against the establishment of a casino from a financial perspective, and I have no doubt that building and operating it will do a lot for someone's bottom line. I realize that ultimately money will drive the final decision, and I have no illusions otherwise, but I still think it's a terrible idea.

I saw this very thing happen in Maryland over the past 20 years. I returned there after living 5 years overseas just as the new Arundel Mills Mall in the Baltimore-Washington corridor opened. I was there 10 or 15 years later when the Maryland Live Casino opened on the mall location. I saw how the place turned from a desirable venue to bring one's family into what I can only describe as a bad neighborhood and an area I had no desire to visit. The change in the atmosphere was visible and palpable, and no amount of lipstick on the pig could cover the obvious deterioration in the setting and the type of clientele who were being drawn in.

I saw all the slick brochures picturing wealthy clientele eager to gamble, but I saw the reality that many, if not most, of the people there were exactly the sort of people who couldn't afford the money they were throwing away, and it became immediately clear that someone was going to have to step in and clean up the messes that gambling was doing to the lives of those people.

Here in Centre County we already lack the resources in family counseling and social work to meet the needs of the community. This is particularly true in the wake of all the turmoil generated by the Covid-19 pandemic over the past year and a half. The state and local institutions that work to pick up the bodies of the fallen

I remember when I was a young student in junior high school living in the Penns Valley area, and the Nittany Mall was the happening place. I saw it again, still in its heyday, when I was an undergrad at Penn State. Now, more than 40 years later, having moved back into the area, I realize it's not what it used to be. If I owned the place, I would be looking for a way to revitalize it. I get all that. I get the fact that a casino in the mall will generate a lot of revenue. I have no argument against the establishment of a casino from a financial perspective, and I have no doubt that building and operating it will do a lot for someone's bottom line. I realize that ultimately money will drive the final decision, and I have no illusions otherwise, but I still think it's a terrible idea.

I saw this very thing happen in Maryland over the past 20 years. I returned there after living 5 years overseas just as the new Arundel Mills Mall in the Baltimore-Washington corridor opened. I was there 10 or 15 years later when the Maryland Live Casino opened on the mall location. I saw how the place turned from a desirable venue to bring one's family into what I can only describe as a bad neighborhood and an area I had no desire to visit. The change in the atmosphere was visible and palpable, and no amount of lipstick on the pig could cover the obvious deterioration in the setting and the type of clientele who were being drawn in.

I saw all the slick brochures picturing wealthy clientele eager to gamble, but I saw the reality that many, if not most, of the people there were exactly the sort of people who couldn't afford the money they were throwing away, and it became immediately clear that someone was going to have to step in and clean up the messes that gambling was doing to the lives of those people.

Here in Centre County we already lack the resources in family counseling and social work to meet the needs of the community. This is particularly true in the wake of all the turmoil generated by the Covid-19 pandemic over the past year and a half. The state and local institutions that work to pick up the broken pieces of people's lives, including the churches, are already struggling in their missions. From a public welfare

CA-2.c.

CA 2.0.
reasons why I do not believe a casino has any place in Happy Valley, but the primary one is that I do not believe gambling has any positive effects on a person's life. Additionally, I believe it can be extremely detrimental.

Please deny construction of this casino, for the betterment of the community. Thank you for your time.

Only by grace,
Jenn Werle

CA-2.c.

CA-2-C
Hello my name is Daniel Tracy. I have lived close to State College all my life and I work at Penn State in one of the dining commons. I grew up around the mall all of my life and I never thought we needed a Casino. I think the Casino Proposal is a bad idea. I believe it will cause many people to be addicted to Gambling especially the students of Penn State. I fear that many students will become gambling addicts and will cause irreparable damage to Penn State and the nearby towns such as Bellefonte. I also think that all small businesses will be affected negatively by the Casino and will cause many future stores to not open near the Casino due to low reverse because all of the money that the customer had will be spent towards the slot machines and the poker tables. And I believe that the social services will be overrun by many families who lost everything due to the Gambling addiction in the household. So I ask as a member of the State College community to not pass the license for the Casino at the Nittany Mall and to deny any future plans of any casinos in the State College area.

Thank you for taking the time to read this
Daniel Tracy

To Whom it May Concern,

CA-2.c.

I am writing to let you know of my opposition to the idea of bringing a Casino to the Nittany Mall space in State College, PA. There are many reasons why I believe this will hurt our community, but I will list a few of them below.

- Casinos market themselves by claiming the amount of revenue they will generate for the state. However, they fail to recognize the detriment to the thousands of individuals who become addicted to gambling. Casinos claim to provide money to the commonwealth at the expense of the people of the community.
- The financial difficulties some (many) will find themselves in because of a gambling problem result in increased crime and poverty.
- Furthermore, the proximity of the casino to Penn State University presents a potential for harming the futures of college students. As young adults, college students are forming financial habits that will shape their future, and gambling habits learned early on are so detrimental.
- I work at a non-profit organization which provides free services and resources to members of our community who may not have the support they need for their family. Casinos prey on people with the promise of quick money, and succeed in luring many into their traps because people want to be able to provide for their families. More times than not, they discover the dangers too late, chasing the next promised reward to get them out of the past problem, only to find themselves in deeper debt. Our community is far better off using our funds to care for the needs of one another than providing another outlet for deeper poverty.
- Finally, the casino promises to provide jobs. However, if you drive around Centre County, you will find a help wanted sign in almost every establishment you visit. Businesses are offering large sign-on bonuses just to get people to work for them because everyone is currently understaffed. Many restaurants are closing their dining rooms or offering limited services/hours because they can't get enough help. There are already plans in place for several new businesses coming to the area in the next few years which will all need staffing. If we can't staff the businesses we currently have, this cannot be an argument for the value it would supposedly bring to our community.

Thank you for hearing my concerns, which are shared by many others in my community

CA-2.c.

To the members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

CA-2.c.

I am a resident and homeowner in State College, PA where there is a proposal to add a casino at the location of the Nittany Mall. I am staunchly opposed to this proposal.

Pennsylvanians have many places to gamble, and do not need another. We can guarantee that if we bring a casino into this area, we will see an increase in gambling addiction in the area as well.

Supporters argue that the casino will bring jobs to the area, but they are not good jobs. Many of these jobs pay at or just barely above the minimum wage. I have a family member who spent decades working casino jobs in Vegas and constantly struggled. We do not need these types of jobs in our area.

I am also greatly concerned about the traffic in the area. One on side of the mall, there is a two lane highway. I can only imagine the backup and the amount of traffic that this will create. This is not the proper location for a casino that will draw thousands of visitors.

A concerned citizen,
Natalie Smith

I oppose the construction of a new casino -- the Nittany Casino -- in State College, PA.

CA-2.c.

Based on my research, casinos are detrimental to the communities in which they are located. Our economy here (I live in a neighboring town) is pretty solid because of the major university located here. We do not need a questionable business such as a casino.

Thank you

--

Joseph C. "Joe" King
Bellefonte, PA

Dear Board Members:

The proposed Nittany Casino does not belong in the Centre Region, and in fact has significant potential to be a major detriment to the area.

The casino would represent a threat to populations within the area. For example, is the Commonwealth prepared to provide addiction services and counseling to those among Centre County's approximately 48,000 college students, vulnerable to gambling addiction, who spend time at the casino instead of at school ?

Similarly, who will bail out the County's numerous senior citizens, already strapped for cash, when they lose their food and housing money to gambling?

Proponents of the proposed College Township Casino recently cited "350-400 new jobs" as one reason Centre Countians should welcome the casino. Centre County has a shortage of workers, not jobs. "Help wanted" signs have proliferated throughout the area as businesses, hospitals, schools, government offices, retirement communities, and others are severely struggling with serious staff shortages.

Yes, Nittany Casino would make some of our wealthy citizens wealthier—the investors. How much better the region would be if the likes of investors Ira Lupert, Ara Kervandjian, and Robert Poole would use their resources for the benefit of the community. Our excellent social service organizations offer numerous opportunities for such.

I am writing to ask you to **DENY** the request for a Casino License in College Township, Pennsylvania - ~~and here are my reasons:~~ **CA-20**

- * Gambling Addiction - the uncontrollable urge to keep gambling despite the TOLL it takes on the individual's life, the loss of finances, loss of employment, spouse and children issues.
- * Increase of crime in the area.
- * Increase of poverty in the area.
- * Family breakdown with a ripple effect for generations.
- * Taking jobs from employers who are currently struggling since the Covid shutdown and many who are having difficulty getting employees. Everywhere I go I see Help Wanted signs. A casino will certainly take jobs and increase the local need for employees and, subsequently, needed services.

The property in College Township has potential for a wholesome business / organization that will benefit the area. I ask you to **DENY** the request for a casino license as it will not benefit the area.

Thank you for considering my request. God Bless You.
Barbara W. Fyffe

Received

OCT 12 2021

College Township

Oct. 12th '21 CA-21d.

To all the Supervisors at College Twp.

Thankyou for your Support of the local Casino.
There are so many of us who are for it and don't
speak up. We cannot wait. But please know, that
those who oppose it, many don't even live in
State College or College Twp or Bellefonte. For those
of us who do live, work & play here, we love
College Twp and hopefully our future Casino & Entertainment
Venue.

More Sincerely,
Dante Englebright,
233 Old Mill Rd
Homer, PA 16801

Dante Englebright @ Gmail. com.