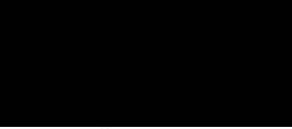


Dear Sirs,

I am not sure if slot machines are the proper thing for a or not. However one thing I am sure of: Pittsburgh is a great city and would be hurt greatly if they lost the Penguins Hockey Team. Whenever you grant the license to, please be assured that a new arena will be built in Pgh so we can keep the Penguins in Pgh. If we get

May 9, 2006

Gary Heeman



Dear Members of the PA Gaming Control Board,

As a resident of the Pittsburgh area, I wish to express my feelings on the matter of the forthcoming decision by the Gaming Control Board, to grant a slots operating license to one of the three competing entities. Before I fully explain myself, I feel a slight amount of personal background is in order, if I may have your patience for a short time.

I am currently 33 years old, and moved to Pittsburgh from the Asheville/Hendersonville area of North Carolina. I represent what Pittsburgh would like to have more of, young, somewhat educated, gainfully employed, tax paying YOUNG people. I am currently employed as a Director of Dining Services , a Certified Dietary Manager, in a local Rehab facility, and I've recently married a woman from this area. I am also a registered voter. Now that we have talked about my roots, I would like explain why I chose Pittsburgh as a city to relocate.

It was a mixture of many ingredients which led me here, the affordability of the housing, the beautiful city vistas, more job opportunities to select from, compared from where I came from, and the fact that the city was just perfect, just small enough that I didn't have to worry to hard about being lost, and big enough to supply urban amenities, social gathering places, and beautiful parks to walk in. And how could I forget, the sports teams I grew up from the age of 6 rooting for, the Steelers, Pirates, and Penguins!! Believe it or not, part of my reason for being here, was to be closer to my teams. I dreamed of the day when I'd be able to physically attend and cheer on all of them. So I saved my money in NC for a couple of years, found a job here, (I had to drive 500 miles apiece for 5 different interviews), and relocated. I couldn't have been happier. Even though this meant paying higher taxes than in NC, and not being able to purchase beer from the grocery store, and getting used to chipped ham and those pierogies.

I have to say the following, but please know that I write this not as just another Penguin fan, but as a citizen of Pittsburgh, who hopes to live here for years upon years. I represent what Pittsburgh needs more of, an influx of younger taxpayers who contribute to the local economy and bring their talents to the area, and have important opinions to give, and take an active interest in turning around Pittsburgh's recent fortunes. I represent hope for the future, there are more of me all around this country, if I relocated for the reasons I specified, I can't be alone!

Not to speak for any recent newcomers to Pittsburgh, but it is certainly my hope and opinion, that a new arena, is immediately necessary to the viability of Pittsburgh. It keeps the area on the map in terms of sports, concerts, and other suited events. After reviewing the current bids on the table for the new slots gaming license, I have found that the Island of Capri will provide financing, in full, for such an undertaking, and that the other bidders have not and will not make the same pledge. From a completely common sense point of view, I cannot fully understand how there is even a rational debate about the three respective bidders. How is this not an open and shut case? Who on this Gaming Control Board is honestly going to decline to accept a gift of nearly 300 million dollars for a facility that the region so badly needs? Whoever would decline this bid, must not have either the intellect to understand what is going on, holds the Penguins or the City with an air of contempt, or has been influenced (by means I don't really want to be accusatory with) to consider otherwise.

I would have a difficult time believing that this state would appoint those sorts of people to such high positions. I have studied the other bids and took it upon myself to make sure I was educated on the bidders to know what I was talking about. I don't see how the traffic problems associated with the Forest City /Station Square/Harrah's group, would even make it to the table as a rational, organized, well thought out bid. By the way, professional traffic consultants on record have recognized the massive traffic problems such a casino sight might bring. Maybe they should have planned out their figures better. I am certain you will find their low estimate of daily traffic laughable. So how can you trust their financial figures?

The Detroit based group, PITG Gaming may have a nice idea, but they really don't give as much back to the area as they could have in their bid. Though, I do give them credit for offering development to the lower hill district, and for their pledge to help with the costs of a new arena. But then part of an arena, and a fully furnished one are two different things. That's just good common sense to see the difference. I'm trusting that this gaming board will have that type of common sense.

In summary, please understand that the best plan, is that belonging to IOC, it gives the region so much that the other bidders do not. If your decision is completely based on which bidder's plan relieves the property tax the most, it would be a shortsighted mistake. Please take in many factors, and let the people speak as for whom and where they want this casino to happen. If you take in all the information, and you have been appointed by someone who hired you based on your qualifications as I assume you all are, then the decision will be very easy. The Island of Capri, gives the most benefit to the region, and aides in property tax relief as well, has the least amount of traffic issues, was planned more carefully with a lot more thought. Please consider this!!

I thank you very much for your time and consideration,

Take Care and Godbless,

Sincerely,

Gary L Heeman



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: GARY HEEMAN

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer: SODEXHO

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, GARY HEEMAN verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.





Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Eric Riedmann

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer: Washington Plaza

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I nominate the Isle of Capri for the awarding of Pittsburgh's slot license. As an employee in the Lower Hill District, I see the development proposed by Isle of Capri an absolute success. The redevelopment of the Lower Hill District rebuilds the community that was lost when the current arena was built. Along with the proposed development plan, it would combine nicely with the Fifth & Forbes Ave project to create a strong "Uptown" in Pittsburgh. Not many cities boast of a strong Uptown district, with Isle of Capri Pittsburgh can.

Other reasons the Isle of Capri should be awarded the slots license include the Penguins: Pittsburgh has lost half its population in the last 50 years by losing a major sports franchise, many more will be lost. There are a lot of jobs involved with a sports franchise & not just the franchise employees.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

The jobs tied into a franchise include parking lots & garages, restaurants, hotels, television employees to name a few. Also losing a sports franchise hurts future businesses to enter this city.

The site for the casino, arena, & redevelopment is great in terms of transportation. It is easily accessible from many different areas.

Of all the proposed casino plans for Pittsburgh, the Isle of Capri is the only that makes sense & will actually work. Pittsburghers would use the casino.

I, Eric Riedmann \_\_\_\_\_ verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Eric Riedmann \_\_\_\_\_



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Sean Benedict

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I believe that the Isle of Capri plan is the plan best suited for Pittsburgh. It will place the casino in a place that is easily accessible and towards the center of the city. It's closeness to the convention center will help attract more conferences and conventions to the city. It's plan to revitalize the Hill district will bring a much needed cleanup of a part of the city that is depressed.

The plan for an arena is also a great benefit to the city. Aside from keeping the Penguins in town it will draw more events and concerts to Pittsburgh. Many concerts pass over Pittsburgh because the facilities are not up to date enough for many modern concerts and events. By increasing business at the arena many local bars and restaurants will thrive. If the Penguins do leave many businesses will not be able to remain open.

The Forrest City plan I believe is probably the worst. One of the biggest disadvantages to placing a casino in Station Square is the increase in Traffic. On any given weekend Carson Street and the Smithfield Street Bridge becomes backed up. With the increase in traffic going to Station Square, the traffic would be unbearable. It will also be difficult and expensive to do anything to ease the increase in traffic to station square because of the river on one side and a mountain on the other.

I also believe that the numbers that Forrest City and Harrah's will not be anywhere close to being accurate. Also, based on their track record in New Orleans and other places, it is hard to believe that they will actually build everything that they are promising.



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: JOE WEINROTH, ESQ.

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE OF PITTSBURGH

Employer: Self-employed

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

See attached Resolution (2 pages).

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS, BY ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA A GAMING CONTROL BOARD HAS BEEN CREATED TO OVERSEE THE INTRODUCTION AND OPERATION OF SLOTS CASINOS WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA; AND**

**WHEREAS, SAID GAMING CONTROL BOARD SHALL ISSUE A SINGLE LICENSE TO OPERATE A SLOTS CASINO WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF PITTSBURGH; AND**

**WHEREAS, THREE ENTITIES HAVE SUBMITTED FORMAL APPLICATIONS FOR SAID SOLE PITTSBURGH SLOTS LICENSE, NAMELY, PITG GAMING, FOREST CITY/HARRAH'S, AND THE ISLE OF CAPRI; AND**

**WHEREAS, EACH OF THESE APPLICANTS HAVE SUBMITTED TO THE GAMING CONTROL BOARD SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A SLOTS CASINO AND VARIOUS OTHER AMENITIES IN THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH; AND**

**WHEREAS, THE DECISION TO GRANT SAID SOLE SLOTS LICENSE TO ONE OF THESE APPLICANTS AND THE ULTIMATE LOCATION OF SAID SLOTS CASINO WILL HAVE AN ENORMOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF OUR CITY; AND**

**WHEREAS, THE MEMBERS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH HAVE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED THE THREE PROPOSALS THAT ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE GAMING CONTROL BOARD; AND**

**WHEREAS, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS SUPPORT FOR THAT PROPOSAL WHICH WILL PRODUCE THE GREATEST POSITIVE IMPACT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH AND THE CITIZENS OF PITTSBURGH;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, ON THIS THE FIRST DAY OF MAY, 2006, AFTER DISCUSSION AND A (UNANIMOUS) VOTE, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE CITY PITTSBURGH ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

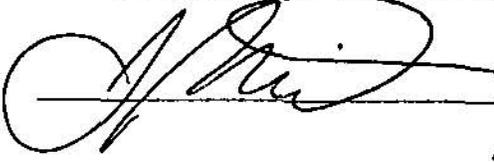
**RESOLVED, THAT THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE GAMING CONTROL BOARD BY THE ISLE OF CAPRI IN COOPERATION WITH THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS CLEARLY PROVIDES THE GREATEST BENEFITS TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. ISLE OF CAPRI HAS COMMITTED THE FULL PRIVATE FUNDING NECESSARY TO BUILD A NEW MULTI-PURPOSE ARENA TO REPLACE THE EXISTING MELLON ARENA WITH NO TAXPAYER PARTICIPATION BEING REQUIRED. THE ISLE OF CAPRI PROPOSAL DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY GOVERNMENTAL BORROWING OR PARTICIPATION IN THE FINANCING OF A NEW ARENA.
2. THE ISLE OF CAPRI PLAN IS THE ONLY PLAN UNDER CONSIDERATION WHICH WILL GUARANTEE THAT THE PITTSBURGH PENGUIN HOCKEY FRANCHISE REMAINS IN PITTSBURGH, WHICH IS A BENEFIT TO THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH AND THE ENTIRE REGION.
3. OF THE THREE PROPOSED CASINO SITES, THE AREA OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH MOST IN NEED OF A MAJOR INFUSION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DOLLARS IS THE AREA IN AND AROUND THE EXISTING MELLON ARENA, THE LOWER HILL DISTRICT AND THE UPTOWN AREA OF THE CITY. THE ISLE OF CAPRI PROPOSAL WILL CONCENTRATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THIS AREA.
4. THE REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE OF PITTSBURGH WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THIS ENDORSEMENT OF THE ISLE OF CAPRI PROPOSAL IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT OF GAMING IN GENERAL AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THERE IS SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION WITHIN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TO ANY TYPE OF GAMING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA. HOWEVER, SINCE THE LAW IN ITS CURRENT FORM ALLOWS FOR ONE STAND ALONE SLOTS CASINO IN PITTSBURGH, WE WANT TO STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE GAMING CONTROL BOARD TO LICENSE THAT ENTITY WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE GREATEST BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE OF PITTSBURGH.
5. THE SO-CALLED "PLAN B" THAT HAS BEEN PROPOSED IN THE EVENT THAT THE ISLE OF CAPRI DOES NOT RECEIVE THE SOLE SLOTS LICENSE REQUIRES LONG-TERM BORROWING BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA WHICH WOULD SUPPOSEDLY BE REPAID USING TAX AND DEVELOPMENT REVENUES GENERATED BY THE GAMING INDUSTRY IN PENNSYLVANIA AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS AND THE SLOTS OPERATOR. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE REVENUES CAN AND SHOULD BE PUT TO BETTER USE IN PROVIDING FOR THE BASIC GOVERNMENTAL NEEDS OF PENNSYLVANIANS IN GENERAL AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH IN PARTICULAR.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ABOVE-RECITED RESOLUTION IS HEREBY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED THIS FIRST DAY OF MAY, 2006 AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Joe Weinroth verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

 Vice-Chairman, Assistant Solicitor,  
Republican Committee of Pittsburgh



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: Shawn Malenich

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Giant Eagle

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

There are a number of things that concern me in regard to the Pittsburgh Slots Casino. Foremost on my mind however is a clear misrepresentation of the projections put forth by the Harrah's/Forest City group.

I'm no economist, but the group at Station Square is clearly inflating their numbers to garner support. Station Square is the most gridlock prone area of the city. The people at Station Square know this. To combat that problem in regard to their projections they've used NON-industry standard numbers to lower traffic flow numbers (1.5 occupants per car versus the industry standard 2.5). Adding that extra occupant to their numbers would truly show absolute turmoil a casino in that area would cause.

A curious issue tied to these numbers are their traffic/revenue projections for hours on the weekend. Out of the three applicants, Harrah's is projecting the highest revenue (then the next casino) and the least traffic. How can that be? How could that possibly stand out from the two other applicants.

As all three applicants will have similar (if not identical) numbers of slots machines and are all soliciting the same consumer base; any difference in revenue will be minute. I see possible way any of the three casinos could generate a significant difference in revenue when are all attracting the same group of people w/ the same number of slot machines.

Another issue I would like to be considered is the situation created by Harrah's in New Orleans in 2000. In a situation very similar to Pittsburgh, Harrah's won +

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

conty For the people of New Orleans. The numbers they presented dwarfed those of other groups vying for the license. They were awarded the license on the merit of these projections. The reality however, when the Casino began operation, showed those numbers to be very far from attainable. The numbers they put forth clearly not put forth honestly, there was then nothing that could be done. They had the Casino and the City couldn't redo the process. They were stuck w/ Harrah's and crooked business dealings.

This situation was further complicated by a demanded \$150,000,000 tax cut for the Casino. Harrah's held New Orleans hostage. They had to give the Casino that tax cut or they were to close their doors. I don't want this group of people operating in my hometown of Pittsburg.

If Harrah's/Forest City is awarded this license there will be a large public backlash. I believe that the Isle of Capri Plan is the best plan for the City. If a decision is made without the best interests of the City and surrounding areas in mind, ~~then this entire Slots process will have become just one more unwanted problem for the region.~~

Please do the right thing! The people have spoken. We want the Isle of Capri Plan to come to fruition. To award the license to Harrah's (or Majestic Star) would be a slap in the face of Western Pennsylvania and its residents. You will essentially have told us that our opinions & support for that plan doesn't mean a thing. That's not a message or practice that any body in this country should ever partake in.

Thank you

I, Shawn Malenich verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Shawn Malenich



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Mike McAfee

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer: Sigma-Albrecht

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I am writing hoping that the Gaming Control Board to resurrect downtown... Not Station Square. People of Pittsburgh need options. 5th & Forbes project will revitalize the city and putting a new arena will not only keep the Pens here but bring a number of benefits. Station Square already attracts Pittsburghers. 5th & Forbes is best for Pittsburgh as a whole.

Thank You,

Mike McAfee

I, Mike McAfee verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Mike McAfee

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS  
INSTRUCTIONS**

Those who cannot attend or speak at the public input hearings may submit written comments for inclusion in the evidentiary record that will have a weight equal to testimony presented in person. The comment-submission form is found on the following pages of this document.

People who submit written comments will have until June 2, 2006, to send their comments by mail to the Gaming Control Board for inclusion in the evidentiary record. The mailing address for written comments is:

Office of the Clerk  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
PO Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: **Brian Kohlhepp**

Address: [REDACTED]

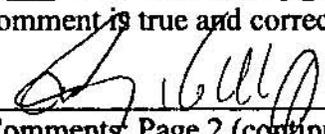
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any:

Employer: **Ross Township**

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I, **Brian Kohlhepp** verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I understand that the gaming board is extremely busy and tasked with an important decision so I will greatly limit my written word. I am writing to voice my opinion in favor of the Isle of Capri plan. I have reviewed the 3 plans and feel this one far outshines the others. The inclusions of funds to build a desperately needed indoor arena are a great bonus, and not the only one. The location is far superior that the already overfilled Station Square and it will only increase the ability of Pittsburgh to make the jump from a city that closes at 5pm to one where people don't just work but live in. It will be a great step towards Pittsburgh becoming a major city with more to offer to all western Pennsylvanians. Please don't allow our corrupt political system to sway such an important decision. I strongly encourage you to award the Isle of Capri with the slots license.



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Christine M. Sharpe

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Organization, if any: n/a

Employer: Allegheny Children's Initiative

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Gaming Board,

My name is Christine Sharpe. I am in my twenties and I am a professional in the social services field. I work in the field I do, not because I am looking to make money, but because I genuinely care about people and try and make a positive difference in their lives whenever I can.

I do not stand to make money from the awarding of this license, I live in Turtle Creek and no matter which location receives the license the greatest impact on me will be traffic. Nevertheless, I felt it was important to spend some time to get my feelings on the record. Way too often politically, the voice of my generation is underrepresented.

Because of my work schedule, I often work seven day weeks, I haven't been as involved in the gaming process as I would like, but I have to say what I have seen, read and observed points totally in the direction of only one of the applicants, and that is Pittsburgh First.

- Only one plan proposes to help rebuild a long neglected neighborhood and that is Pittsburgh First.

- Only one plan will build a new multi-purpose arena at no taxpayer expense and that is Pittsburgh First.

I know that this slots license is supposed to be about property tax relieve, but I urge you to keep in mind the following three points.

- Without a new arena, a large amount of tax revenue will be lost.
- Without a new arena in a timely fashion, a professional sports team will be lost, resulting in the loss of a large amount of tax revenue.
- The Forest City proposal, with their pic in the sky revenue projections, indicates that the Pittsburgh market can bear that level of revenue. This means that whichever of the three proposals is accepted will lead to that revenue stream. If Forest City believes anyone can attain that level of revenue, then why are they even being considered, since they are offering the least to the city and region beyond their high revenue projections.

In my young life, it has become very apparent to me that this is one of the most political regions in the country. Whether it is a council member of one of the one hundred and thirty municipalities that comprise Allegheny County, or a school board member for one of the over forty school boards that represent Allegheny County, people with political agendas are everywhere.

What I continue to hear from friends and neighbors in this region and from other parts of the state and country who are familiar with this situation is that only one choice makes sense and that is Pittsburgh First.

So I guess the big question, is do the people get what they want, a Pittsburgh First slots license or does politics continue to reign supreme. As someone who hopes to live in this region for many years to come, I can only hope it is the former rather than the latter.

Thank you for your time

I, Christine M Sharpe verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Christine M Sharpe



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Edmond N. Gaudelli

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: AARP

Employer: Retired

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I believe that the Isle of Capri has the best plan for Pittsburgh, and should be awarded the slots license. It would provide for a new arena at no cost to the taxpayers. It would also provide development for the Hill District. I would truly appreciate your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,  
*Edmond N. Gaudelli*  
Edmond N. Gaudelli



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Scott Wilson

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Fisher Scientific

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

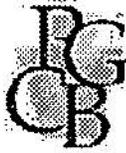
Members of the gaming control board, I am writing in hope that you will read this with an open mind and allow my input to impact your decision on the awarding of the license for the city of Pittsburgh. Currently, there are 3 proposals in front of you from three respected individuals and corporations. I am submitting this written comment in full support of the Isle of Capri proposal. I believe this is the only proposal that correctly balances the wants and needs of the city and its citizens in and around the City. First, the Isle of Capri proposal accurately forecasts the potential slots revenue unlike Mr. Raab's group. There has been no occasion where the Harrisburg

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

The prime example of this is the casino built in the city of New Orleans. New Orleans is still feeling the effects of this failed attempt to bring a casino to New Orleans. Second, the idea that you could economically build a casino by the Carnegie Science Center or in South Side is preposterous. There are not enough resources in land or infrastructure in either location to provide adequate access. Lastly, the Isle of Capri only provides an adequate area of access, over which public support, but it also provides more than just a casino. It also provides economic revitalization to a sorely needed region of Pittsburgh. This proposal also provides for a free arena to the city and its residents. The amount of money that will be provided to the city through activities at the arena plus the revenue from the casino is more than any other proposal can provide. The money brought in by both of the locations will benefit the state more than any other location, or proposal. Please members do what is right for the state and city of Pittsburgh and award the license to Isle of Capri.

I, Scott Wilson verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

---



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: LORA DUDRICK

Address: 

Telephone:  .COM

Organization, if any: —

Employer: CARNEGIE MUSEUMS & LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

May 28, 2006

Since I have reviewed all three slot-license proposals for the city of Pittsburgh, I believe the Isle of Capri is the most well-suited proposal for the city of Pittsburgh, in which I create a multi-purpose arena for the community.

I, LORA DUDRICK verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sincerely, Lora Dudrick May 28, 2006



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: PHILIP C. RUSH

Address: 

Telephone:  net

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT GROUP

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I know you have been given a monumental task of deciding which applicants obtain gaming licenses in the state of Pennsylvania. Being a native of the Pittsburgh area I am extremely concerned that we will fully utilize the proposed casino and what it will bring to the region. While I'm hoping for the greatest possible tax relief, I feel that both its location and surrounding community development will be most important to its success in Pite

to the people of Pennsylvania as well as nearby West Virginia we could see saturation in this gaming market. This saturation could limit the amount of revenue any casino in Pittsburgh would bring. Should a casino not live up to its "proposed" revenues, there can be a huge consolation to the city and community that allowed it to be built by guaranteeing the most up-front benefits that are not tied to revenue. The Isle of Capri Casinos is taking the greatest risk of all the Pittsburgh applicants. They are backing up the numbers they have proposed by committing more to the community than the other two applicants. The Isle of Capri obviously also have the most incentive to recoup what they've invested. In closing, I would also like to remind the board that all the larger polls of the residents of the Pittsburgh region have overwhelmingly backed the Isle of Capri's plan. If you consider all the facets a Pittsburgh casino can bring, wouldn't it be wiser to select a plan that will benefit the most people for years to come, regardless how gaming is received in Pennsylvania.

I, PHILIP C. RUSH verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Philip C. Rush



Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



FILED  
MAY - 9 2006  
Board Clerk PGC

WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: RICHARD J. SWEARINGEN

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED] .COM

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: METSO MINERALS B.M.H.

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

AS A SEASON TICKET HOLDER FOR PENGUIN GAME  
A CONCERT GOER, ONE WHO TAKES HIS 9 GRANDSONS  
TO CIRCUS & OTHER EVENTS AT THE CIVIC ARENA, I  
WOULD LIKE TO SEE PITTSBURGH GET A NEW ARENA  
(NOT JUST FOR HOCKEY)!  
WITH GUARANTEED MONIES TOWARD A NEW PITTSBURGH  
ARENA, THE ISLE OF CARRI SLOTS SEEMS MORE LOGICAL  
THAN THE OTHERS. (THEY WILL ALSO SPEND MONEY FOR  
LOWBA HILL DISTRICT & UPTOWN DEVELOPMENT). NO TAX MON  
WILL BE USED (EX: PNC PARK). JUST THINK OF THE MONEY  
COULD BE SPENDING FOR PARKING AT [REDACTED] WHEN GOING TO TH

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

ARENA.

THIS WILL BE LOST BY ALL IF THE PENGUINS ARE  
TO BE SOLD. (LET'S NOT LET ANOTHER CITY GET  
THIS & LET OUR COMMUNITIES NOT)!

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ABOVE WHEN AWARDING THE  
SLOTS LICENSE.

THANK YOU,

I, RICHARD J. SWERINGEN verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Richard J. Swearingen



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



FILED

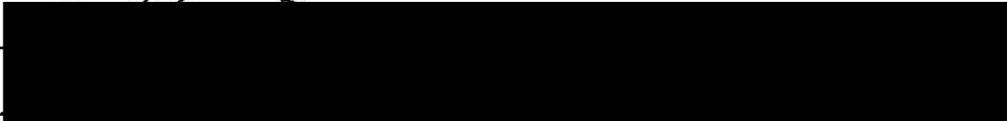
MAY - 9 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Steve Leitch

Address: 

Telephone:  01m

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

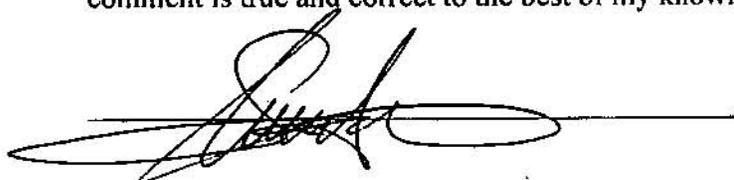
Employer: Day Automotive Group

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Despite being an avid hockey fan, I know that my family has missed out on several concerts and larger-ty events because the existing Civic Arena cannot accommodate them. In addition, I know several eating and bar establishments that suffered tremendously during the most recent NHL strike and lockout, that could be a prelude to life after hockey here in Pittsburgh should the Penn decide to leave town...

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Stephen Lelich verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Lelich", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'S' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



FILED

MAY - 9 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Mary A Brunner

Address: 

Telephone:  C. NET

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*I support the Isle of Capri Casinos that are going to build a arena for the Penguins and the public will not have to contribute nothing. This is the best deal for all concerned. It will be located where the present arena now stands and will develop the hill district. The traffic will be less congested from that area of town.*

*I hope that you will award the casino license to Isle of Capri so our penguins will stay in Pgt and have a new arena as they were*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Promised many years ago.  
Thank you for your consideration of my  
letter.

Sincerely  
Mary A Brunner

I, Marya Brunner verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

---



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



FILED  
MAY 10 2000  
Board C

## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: James A. Schwamberger

Address: 

Telephone:  net

Organization, if any: None

Employer: Retired

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

As A Life long Resident of Allegheny County, I Believe the Isle of Capri, has the best plan For slots and overall benefit to Pittsburgh.

--- Thank you,  
Jim

I, James A. Schwamberger, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



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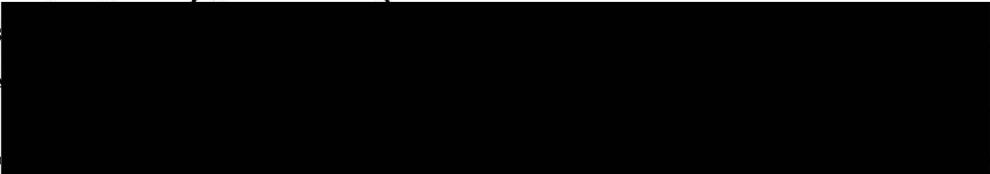
MAY - 9 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: FELICIA S. EMANUEL

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: RETIREE

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

As a Littleton, Virginia person ticket holder, my husband and I have a vested interest in a new multi-purpose facility to house the team as well as provide a venue for other events such as concerts, skating & exhibitions and the circus (these events have been enjoyed by us and our families). We would be thrilled to continue to enjoy all the events in an up-to-date, modern facility. Anyone who has visited The Bullion Arena, recently can realize the need for a new multi-purpose facility such as we have seen ourselves in our cities such as Fort Lauderdale and Tampa. In stating the plans of those applying for a casino license, the plan

of Capri seems to be the number 1 choice for a casino here. Their plan to cover the costs of a new multi-purpose facility combined with development of housing and retail provides the type of impetus Vintzberg needs to continue its present plans for re-development of the downtown and surrounding area. It can do nothing but good to the city's economic viability. The ~~fact~~ of Capri plan garnered well with all the other city development plans. They have a comprehensive plan for all of the construction along with good plans for traffic requirements. It will help to revitalize the Hill District area.

Thankyou.

I, FELICIA E. MARCHE verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Felicia E. Marche

FILED

MAY - 9 2006



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



Board Clerk PGCB

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:

MARY D. BAILEY

Address:

[REDACTED]

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

WIA

Employer:

RETIRED

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

**I urgently and emphatically ask that the slots license be issued to the Mario Lemieux Group. The year-round use of an arena will be a source of significant income to the City of Pittsburgh and to Allegheny County. The loss of the Penguins would be a disaster for us. Should this City lose any or all of its professional teams, we might as well roll up the sidewalks.**



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



FILED

MAY - 4 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Edward M Bittner

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer: International Sound corp.

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Quite simply, FOC = Arena For Free. I know that's not the intent of the Governor. He says State Tax is the Goal. An arena next to a slots parlor works in tandem as they feed off each other on nights there are events at the public auditorium. Interestingly how it went from what's best for the Pittsburgh region (And that would be a free, "tax free" building) to what would produce the most tax revenue. I would think the new sports and entertainment arena adjacent to the slots parlor would work to combine tax revenue with the development around them. There can only be one result that makes sense and that is the awarding of the license to F.O.C.

Awarding of this license to Station Square would be a travesty and you as a group, along with the governor should come under a thorough investigation. The location at Station Square is a logjam and where are you going build condominiums?

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

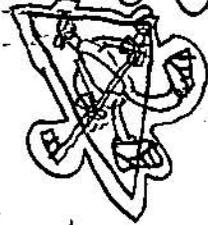
While it is apparent that you have been directed to shift concern from what's best for Pittsburgh to what's best to produce state tax revenue, you hold countless politician jobs in your

There is a strong group that will not re-elect anyone involved ~~the penguins leave town. most notably the Governor.~~

If the Governor's "plan B" to finance an arena is not just a setup. I will be happy. All I want is the team to stay and I would rather not pay extra for it. I voted down for the football and baseball stadiums because I knew the politicians wanted us to have it and pay for it. See they think they know what we want. And now a word from my son.

I love Sidney Crosby #87. I really like going to games.

Pittsburgh



First

Matthew  
Bittner

2nd GTD

I, \_\_\_\_\_ verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT  
HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: William Brian Butler

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: Wilkinsburg Public Library

Employer:

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

- College student from Pittsburgh, going to Queens Univ. of Charlotte
- Want to continue to have Pgh as official residency, but that could pose a challenge.
- Having a hockey team is important not only for community interests but also for the region.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

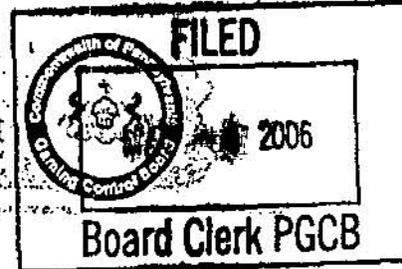
- Isle of Capri; and Pittsburgh First, pro the best option for our region
- They utilize potential like no other operator applicant.
- We need to build on our Great City's and State's achievements to prep for the future
- Problems presented regarding Pittsburgh First proposal are illegitimate.

I, William Butler verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. B. Butler



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT  
HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: Tonya D. Payne

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Pittsburgh City Council

Employer:

City of Pittsburgh

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

My name is Tonya D. Payne, and I am the Pittsburgh City Councilwoman for Council District #6, an area that is comprised of the Hill District, Uptown, Downtown, and portions of the Northside and South Oakland. I am grateful for the opportunity to address the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board today, for in doing so, I hope that I will accurately and honestly give public voice to the concerns and interests of my constituents.

Acting in my capacity as Councilwoman, I represent portions of our city that have often been and continue to be overlooked by a wide variety of political, development, and entrepreneurial interests. Premised upon false assumptions relating to class and race, such entities have often made the decision to put their money and their focus into areas of the city that have already experienced a great deal of prior economic development. In addition, when such entities DID reach the decision to invest and build within disenfranchised portions of the city, such decisions were often undertaken with little regard for the concerns, needs, and autonomy of the residents of those communities. Ultimately, such choices, be they based upon tactics of avoidance or dominance, have always resulted in the same common end: The gap between the "Have's" and the "Have Not's" increased, and the forgotten became even more forgotten, as social and economic benefits continued to trickle upward rather than downward.

With the advent of gaming in the City of Pittsburgh, I foresee a unique opportunity to rectify many of these previous wrongs that have been committed by such self-seeking

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Comments: Page 2 (continued)

83:19:1001:1667  
was of fact within the State of Pennsylvania, I am happy to note that our State legislators felt the same. When Pennsylvania drafted and adopted its gaming law, it did so with a very progressive set of goals and expectations in mind. Rightly so, our State legislators personally had with gaming might also come the opportunity to recognize and service the needs of the more socially and economically disadvantaged members of our communities. With the intent of this law being what it is, it would stand to logic that such a statute would give preference to those applicants who seek to give as much to the community as they stand to gain from it. In addition, it would also be quite correct to note that this giving should be most pointedly directed towards those sections of our city that stand in the greatest need of further attention and assistance.

In an attempt to balance all of these facts with the concerns voiced by my constituents, I have reached the conclusion that the Isle of Capri offers the best plan for both my council district and the City of Pittsburgh as a whole. In many ways, the Isle of Capri is the only applicant that truly mirrors the intent of our State's gaming law, in that it is the only applicant that has shown a sincere willingness to work with the surrounding community for the betterment of that community. Ultimately, the Isle of Capri plan calls for a \$1 billion plus investment that will revitalize the Lower Hill and Uptown neighborhoods. This revitalization process will succeed in creating thousands of quality jobs, a variety of new business opportunities, millions of dollars in revenue to the city and county, a privately funded multi-purpose arena worth \$290 million, and a world class gaming facility. In addition, the Isle of Capri has stated that it wishes to make room for resident voices, thereby allowing members of the Hill District and Uptown communities to make autonomous decisions regarding land use and development within their own neighborhoods. In many ways, this proposal does much to rectify the wrongs that were committed in 1961, when the current Arena was built at the expense of the needs and wishes of the residents of the Lower Hill District. By promising to work with the community in order to redevelop this portion of the city with both affordable housing and viable businesses that are to be owned and operated by minorities and women, no less, the Isle of Capri has shown an interest in truly progressive community development in a way that none of the other applicants can claim.

For me personally, the answer to the question of gaming in the City of Pittsburgh can be found best by examining which slots applicant will do the most for my constituents and for the city. Clearly, we have all listened to and seen the consequences of the disingenuous promises of the past. Here, today, we have the chance to try to do things differently and better. This, I believe, is the point of any development opportunity: The chance to do things better and to make things better for the people who need it the most.

I, Tonya D. Payne verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Tonya D. Payne*



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: David W. Christopher

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any N/A

Employer: The Jade Group

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

I am a life-long resident of Western Pennsylvania and have a long history of being active in civic and community activities. Among other things, I was President of the Pittsburgh Symphony for six years, a member of the Board of the Duquesne Club and Chairman of the Health & Welfare Planning Association of Allegheny County. I was also Chairman of the Allegheny County Republican Committee from 1980-1984 and Vice Chairman of the Republican State Committee from 1982-1984.

I served on the Regional Asset District Board at the time "Plan B" for constructing Heinz Field and PNC Park was considered and, in fact, provided the sixth and deciding vote to approve Plan B. (I replaced a previous Board member who opposed Plan B.) I did so because I believed Western Pennsylvania needed these new facilities as well as the expansion of our Convention Center. I feel the same about the need for a new arena, not just for hockey games, but for many other events also.

(OVER)

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

We have a unique opportunity to get such an arena with no state money if the Isle of Capri application is approved. The other alternative (new "Plan B") requires the use of state funds. In addition, the Isle of Capri proposal provides \$290 million up front, thus eliminating any risk of long-term financing.

I earnestly solicit the support of the Gaming Control Board for the Isle of Capri proposal.

---

P.S. I was registered to speak at the April 18, 2006 Hearing, but, unfortunately, I was out of town.

I, David W. Christopher, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



*David W. Christopher*

April 17, 2006  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

Dear Members of the PGCB:

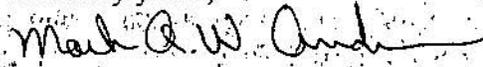
Since, as of this date, I have not received confirmation that I could speak at the hearings to be held at the William Penn Hotel tomorrow (18 April, 2006,) I have not been able to make appropriate plans to miss work and attend. As a result, I ask that you accept this letter of testimony instead of having me speak in person at the hearings.

I realize you will receive many varied testimonies from Pittsburgh and Allegheny county residents, who have many important points to make. However, I approach the Pittsburgh slots parlor situation as a person from outside the metropolitan area, and outside southwestern Pennsylvania. The primary point I would like to make is that awarding of any slot parlor license in the Pittsburgh area (or elsewhere, for that matter) should keep in mind that there is a need to draw players from as wide a geographical range as possible to maximize receipts and tax dollars. While proposals including condominiums, shops and restaurants will draw mostly locals to an area, inclusion of a multi-purpose arena, such as is the plan of the Isle of Capri Group, will be able to attract many additional players to Pittsburgh.

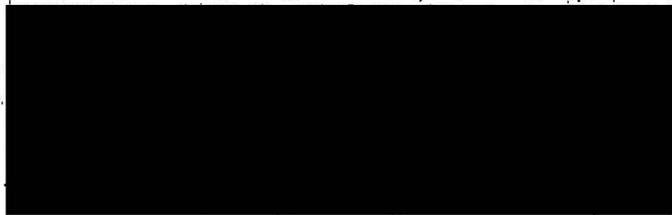
I speak to this point out of experience, as my wife and I often drive from Erie, PA to attend concerts and other events at the Civic/Mellon Arena. I also know, and know of, many other individuals from northwest Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and western New York state (and I am sure there are many from West Virginia and Maryland) who drive significant distances to attend events at the Arena. Typically, we do not only drive into town for the event, but also shop and utilize restaurants, and could be especially persuaded to use such facilities, and the slot parlor, if they were located near a new multi-purpose arena. In addition, this development could greatly help urban renewal in that area of downtown Pittsburgh, while bringing many dollars to the area that otherwise would not be available. In addition, most of us from outside the Pittsburgh area realize a new multi-purpose structure is necessary, with many events bypassing Pittsburgh at this time because the facilities are unacceptable. Thus a new facility would attract events as well as patrons, further maximizing tax receipts.

Thus, I believe the plan of the Isle of Capri Group, which associates the slot parlor with a sports and entertainment arena, will tend to attract more players; players from a wider geographical area, who would bring additional money into the Pittsburgh area for slot play, hotels, restaurants, shops, etc. This is a revenue stream which has not been fully considered, and would not be tapped, by Pittsburgh slot parlor applicants other than the Isle of Capri Group.

Sincerely yours,



Mark A. W. Andrews, Ph.D.





# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: HONORABLE Wm. Russell Robinson

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any: MEMBER of COUNCIL PA. 45

Employer: COUNTY of ALLEGHENY

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

As a former member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly for <sup>14</sup>20 years and a current member of the Allegheny County Council, the issuance of the Category 2 casino license for the City of Pittsburgh could not be a more important issue for our region.

As members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, you are charged with an awesome responsibility that will effect generations of Pittsburghers. Ensuring that the selected casino proposal will be the best – for economic development, job creation, tourism, promoting diversity and supporting our communities will be vital. The fact that we have only one chance to get it right makes the stakes even higher.

The Pittsburgh First development plan is one of the largest economic development projects in the history of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The benefits to our community are far superior then any other plan being proposed today. It will bring much needed jobs and economic development to the Hill District and Uptown communities – communities I've served for more than 20 years. During my tenure in office, I've seen the Hill passed up for economic development projects for other communities in the city and county. Finally, someone has stepped to the plate to rejuvenate a neighborhood that once was the lifeline of our city.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

The plan calls for over \$1 billion investment that will revitalize the Hill District and Uptown communities by creating thousands of quality jobs, new businesses, a privately funded multi-purpose arena and a world-class gaming facility. This investment will redevelop the 28 acre site where the Mellon currently sits, with new mixed-use projects like residential living and retail. It will also reconnect the Lower Hill with downtown Pittsburgh. Further, it will put this property back on the tax rolls – so the city and county will also benefit.

Finally, the plan calls for the creation of the Pittsburgh First Foundation, which will contribute \$1 million dollars annually to the community. This foundation will be run by local community members and representatives.

Considering all these factors, the choice is clear that Pittsburgh First, its partners, Isle of Capri Casino's Inc., Pittsburgh Penguins, Nationwide Realty Development, Inc., and the community, is the best choice for Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the region. I respectfully urge you to join me in working for the betterment of our citizens and supporting Pittsburgh First and the Isle of Capri's application.

  
I, William Russell Robinson, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

WILLIAM RUSSELL ROBINSON



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: PUCLETTI FAMILY

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED] *use*

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

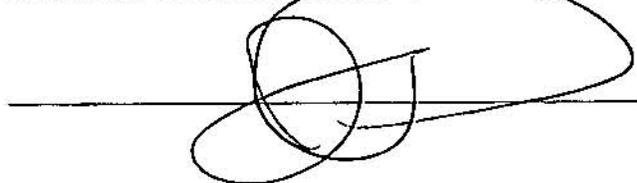
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

PLEASE AWARD THE PITTSBURGH SLOTS  
LICENSE TO THE ISLE OF CAPR

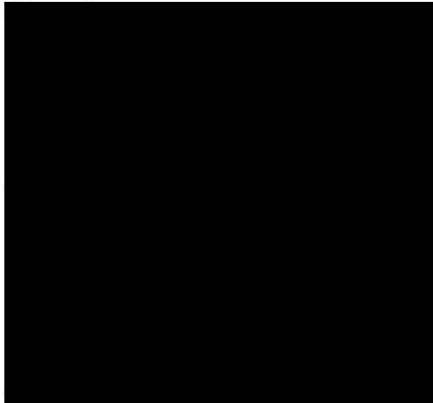
THANK-YOU

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, JOHN PUCCEA verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JOHN PUCCEA", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

FRANK LaGROTTA, MEMBER



House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

FILED  
MAY 24 2006  
Board Clerk PGCB

COMMITTEES  
TOURISM & RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS  
MEMBER  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
PA HIGHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES  
AUTHORITY  
PA LEGISLATIVE CHILDREN'S CAUCUS  
PA LEGISLATIVE PRO-LIFE CAUCUS  
PA STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING  
AUTHORITY  
PENN STATE CAUCUS  
LEGISLATIVE FIREFIGHTERS AND  
EMERGENCY SERVICES CAUCUS  
SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS

May 8, 2006

Kenneth T. McCabe, Member  
PA Gaming Control Board  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Verizon Tower  
Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Kenneth:

As a representative of the Commonwealth who calls western Pennsylvania my home, I wish to share my opinion with you regarding the award of the pending Pittsburgh gaming license. I appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter as written testimony to be entered into the evidentiary record along with the many others who have submitted written comments.

When Pennsylvania was investigating the impacts of gaming in order to write appropriate legislation, the Commonwealth sought advice from Innovation Group, the largest and most active firm performing gaming market analyses in the United States. Over the last 14 years, Innovation Group compiled data to fund over \$40 billion of projects and their clients, including foreign governments, state governments and municipalities around the globe. The data prepared for the Commonwealth was thoroughly scrutinized by a number of state agencies, universities, independent economists and the media. The forecasts prepared by the Innovation Group withstood the scrutiny and were accepted by all parties as the gaming outlook for the Commonwealth.

In Pittsburgh, there has been a great deal of discussion related to the size of the gaming market with some numbers ranging 50 percent higher than Innovation Group estimates. I understand that gaming revenue forecasts are not an exact science; however, I find it difficult to believe that our Commonwealth could underestimate the market size of Pittsburgh by 50 percent.

Given the quality of the three Pittsburgh gaming operators, it is obvious to me that no one casino development will generate significantly more gaming revenue than another. I have examined the proposals before you, and I believe that the actual revenues may be best determined by site access because gaming patrons demand easy access. The Isle of Capri proposal offers the best access and therefore provides the best proposal for Pittsburgh.

The Isle of Capri plan offers the additional benefits of \$290 million for construction of a new arena, which will keep the Penguins in Pittsburgh and will redevelop the Uptown and Hill Districts. The opportunity for our region to build a new arena without debt or public funds in addition to reviving a struggling area of Pittsburgh remains a top priority for me.

I ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to grant the Pittsburgh gaming license to Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.

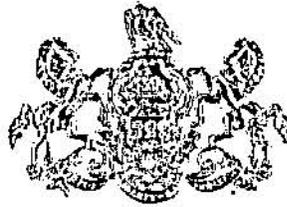
Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank LaGrotta". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

FRANK LaGROTTA, MEMBER  
House of Representatives

STATE SENATOR  
**JANE CLARE ORIE**  
40TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Senate of Pennsylvania

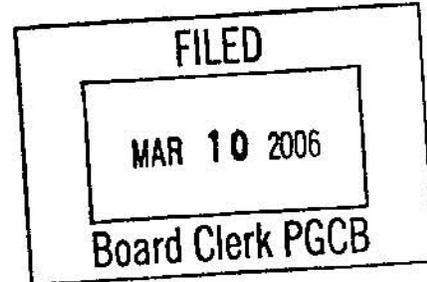
COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH, CHAIR  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, VICE CHAIR  
APPROPRIATIONS  
EDUCATION  
JUDICIARY  
POLICY

JOINT HOUSE AND SENATE AUTISM COMMITTEE  
CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD  
TEAM PA BOARD  
WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT BOARD  
WORKING FAMILIES TASK FORCE  
AMERICAN-ITALIAN CAUCUS  
ARTHRITIS AND OSTEOPOROSIS CAUCUS  
FIREFIGHTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES CAUCUS  
IRISH CAUCUS

March 6, 2006

Tad Decker, Chairman  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060



Dear Chairman Decker:

Although I will not be presenting oral testimony at the Gaming Control Board's public hearings in Pittsburgh on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006, I would like to take this opportunity to submit written comments in support of the application submitted by Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.

Of the applications for the Category 2 casino license in the city of Pittsburgh, only the proposal submitted by the gaming partner of the Pittsburgh Penguins, Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc., a Biloxi, Mississippi company, has publicly committed funding that will directly benefit the city. Overall, this application offers the best casino gambling option for our city, our region, and our taxpayers for a number of reasons.

First, as you know, the granting of the casino license to Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. will directly result in the construction of a new \$290 million arena for the Pittsburgh Penguins hockey team, with no state or local tax dollars required. Instead of tax dollars, the gaming revenue resulting from this casino license will be used to ensure that Pittsburgh remains the home of the Pittsburgh Penguins by creating a multi-purpose arena. With the Gaming Control Board estimating that the Category 2 licensee in Pittsburgh will take in between \$450 million and \$650 million per year, any selected licensee should commit some of these revenues to the community. Only Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. has made such a commitment, by partnering with the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Second, Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. has committed to community revitalization and economic development in its selected location. This proposal is an economic impetus for the revitalization of the city of Pittsburgh's Hill District – a revitalization that will occur at no cost to the taxpayers. The Penguins and Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. have

Page #2  
Tad Decker, Chairman  
PA Gaming Control Board  
March 9, 2006

pledged to return to the community any profits earned as a result of the proposed \$400 million community redevelopment of the lower Hill District by Nationwide Realty Investors of Columbus, Ohio. These profits are in addition to the \$1 million per year that the Isle of Capri has promised to donate for community development from casino profits.

And third, the geographic location selected by Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. is accessible and will not require taxpayer funded infrastructure improvements to maintain accessibility. With an expected draw of over six million visitors a year, ten times the number of people who attend a Steelers football game over the course of a year, the Category 2 licensee's facility will be an integral part of the city. Because of the existing transportation network in this section of the city, the location of the Isle of Capri's casino in the Hill District is the preferable location when compared to the other sites in the city.

Pittsburgh and the entire region will benefit from the proposed investment by the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. The investment will occur in a location where economic development efforts and new job creation are vital and sorely needed. Through this economic development, needed revenues will be generated that will help the city of Pittsburgh emerge from the current fiscal crisis and will ensure that the city of Pittsburgh is once again an economic hub for the region. The proposal put forth by Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc., in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Penguins, is a win-win situation for both the City of Pittsburgh and for the region as a whole.

As the Gaming Control Board evaluates the applications for the Category 2 license in the city of Pittsburgh, I would urge that it take into account not only the financial feasibility of the proposal, but select the proposal that will provide the best benefit for the city and the region as a whole. The Isle of Capri Casinos application offers the best option for the city and our region, as well as the Commonwealth.

I appreciate the Board's consideration of my comments as it works to select the Category 2 licensee for the city of Pittsburgh. If you have any questions on my comments, please call.

Sincerely,  
  
JANE CLARE ORIE  
State Senator  
40<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

JCO/mmh

cc. Dan Stambaugh, Liaison  
PA Gaming Control Board

FRANK J. PISTELLA, MEMBER

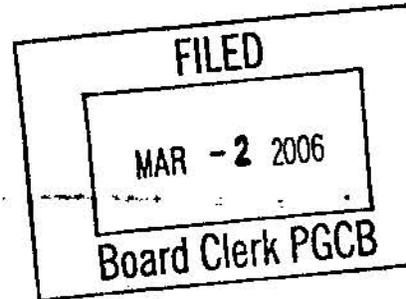


COMMITTEES

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES  
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN  
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE  
TREASURER

House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

February 28, 2006



Tad Decker Chairman  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Dear Mr. Decker:

As a legislator representing Allegheny County, I am concerned with keeping the Penguins in Pittsburgh.

I have been following this issue in the news media and I am prepared to do what I can to support the effort for a new arena. I supported this gaming effort when it was before the General Assembly, and I will continue to support the Pittsburgh First Proposal currently before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

As we embark upon issuing licenses, I hope the Gaming Control Board will take into consideration and support the Pittsburgh First Proposal currently before the Board. This would draw revenue to the Western part of the Commonwealth, and at the same time revitalize the city, businesses and the surrounding areas. As always, I stand ready to discuss this matter with you and your staff.

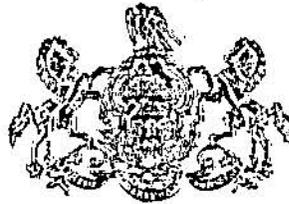
Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. If I may be of any further assistance to you on this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Pistella  
State Representative  
21<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

FJP/aml:lss

STATE SENATOR  
**JANE CLARE ORIE**  
40TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Senate of Pennsylvania

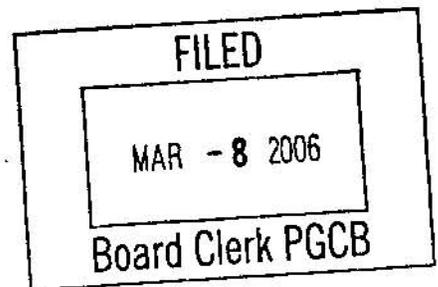
COMMITTEES

AGING AND YOUTH, CHAIR  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, VICE CHAIR  
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March 6, 2006

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P.O. Box 69060  
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March 9, 2006

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I appreciate the Board's consideration of my comments as it works to select the Category 2 licensee for the city of Pittsburgh. If you have any questions on my comments, please call.

Sincerely,  
  
JANE CLARE ORIE  
State Senator  
40<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

JCO/mmh

cc. Dan Stambaugh, Liaison  
PA Gaming Control Board



Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

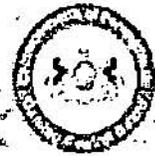
Hello! I am not writing to you just as a Pittsburgh Penguins fan, but as a concerned citizen... The Pittsburgh Penguins were brought to this region in 1967, where they found their home in the Civic Arena, built in 1961. 45 years later, they are still calling Mellon Arena home. When their lease expires in 2007, they are presented with two options- build a new arena or relocate. How can we let a sport that has proved to be a cornerstone of Pittsburgh sports for so many years suddenly vanish!? However, as you are probably already aware of, The Isle of Capri has agreed to privately fund a new arena if they are awarded the slots license. Not only does Mellon Arena house the Penguins, but the also provide a venue for concerts, ice shows, and many other forms of entertainment. Can this also be justified for PNC Park and Heinz Field? I don't think so. The urgency for a new arena is unfathomable! I am aware that the other applicants for the license have acknowledged the new arena in their plans also, however the Isle of Capri is the only plan endorsed by the Penguins. Once again, the Isle of Capri casinos have planned to privately fund the new arena at *NO cost to the taxpayers!* Not only are they proposing a new arena, but a revitalization of the Hill District. They are providing for the betterment of the entire city of Pittsburgh, not just hockey fans. How can we pass up this opportunity? Are the other applicants' proposals really in the best interest of the city? Shouldn't we push to revitalize areas in the city that need revitalized, such as the Uptown district, and not areas that are already revitalized such as the North Shore and Station Square? It was estimated that over \$20 million dollars in revenue was lost last year due to the NHL lockout. What will happen if the Pens permanently leave Pittsburgh? The revenue that Mellon Arena brings in is extraordinary! I feel that we owe it to Mario Lemieux alone, for all of his initiatives to keep the Penguins in Pittsburgh to this point. Losing the Penguins would prove as an economic disaster for the Uptown district. In a city that is struggling to rebound ourselves from economic uncertainty, do we really need another crushing blow?! The betterment of our city relies on your vote! Thus, I ask you to please consider awarding the slot license to The Isle of Capri for their proposal to not only fund the Penguins with a new arena, but to revitalize the Uptown area, which the entire city on Pittsburgh is in dire need of.

Thank you

Theresa A Cooper



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Jennifer Siegel Bergman

Address

Telephone

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I am a future resident of Pittsburgh. I was a visitor with my fiancée in March. We fell in love with your City. Since that visit we have put the wheels in motion to move to your great City. We are huge Penguins fans. If they were gone we would consider looking elsewhere in PA. Please award the gaming license and allow us of Capri to build the Pens a new home add lots to an already Great City!

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Thanks for taking the time to hear  
from me.

I, Jennifer Siegel Bergman, verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jennifer Siegel - Bergman.



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: JASON BERGMAN

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

Bed Bath & Beyond

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Dear PGCB:

I AM writing to you as a concerned future resident of Pittsburgh. Recently me and my fiancée visited Pittsburgh for my birthday. Why? Well it was my 31ST birthday and she bought me tickets to see a Penguins game. I've never seen my favorite hockey team (the Penguins) play in Mellon arena. This was the most exciting trip. Now after visiting the city we heard while there that the Penguins may not be around much longer unless a gaming license was awarded to the ... I Capri was able to

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

donate money for an arena. Now I feel that if the city of Pittsburgh was to lose the penguins, they would be losing history, residents and pride of the city. Pittsburgh cannot lose a professional franchise! Not only does the team provide an interest for people to see the team and bring in revenue, its an identity that people live their lives by. I have lived in Jersey most of my life, and after visiting your beautiful city, my fiancée and I have seriously considered moving there in 2007. Now if the Penguins leave, I will probably look to another part of PA or another state all together. Please put Pittsburgh first and please help provide a future for a city in need. Thank you for your time.

I, JASON BERGMAN

verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.





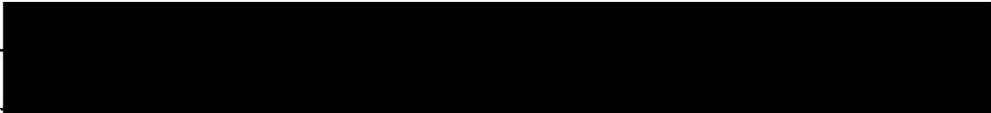
Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Brandon Hehn

Address: 

Telephone: 

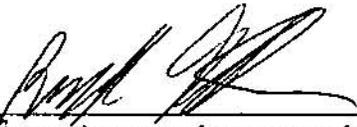
Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: College Student --

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

It's time that the citizens of Pittsburgh are put first. I'm tired of the city getting shafted. The Penguins are part of the city's rich history and it is in this city that they should play. On a note to the politicians, if you do not support the Isle of Capri plan, I do not support you.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I,  verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: SHELLA SIFORD

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: ERIE PENS FAN CLUB!

Employer: RETIRED

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

KEEP PENS IN PITTSBURGH!  
DO NOT LOSE THE BEST  
SHOW IN TOWN!  
GO PENS!!!  
THANKS.



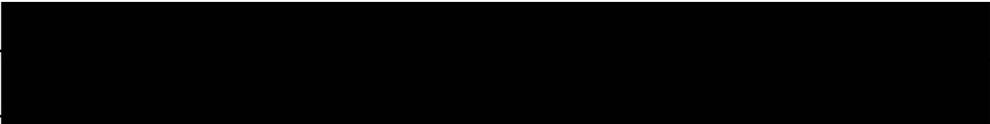
Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: DONALD E HERRLE

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: MELLON BANK

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I SUPPORT PITTSBURGH FIRST BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY WAY TO SUCCESSFULLY KEEP MY TRUE LOVE IN SPORTS, THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS, HERE AS A VIABLE MAJOR LEAGUE SPORTS FRANCHISE. WITHOUT THEM, AN ARENA IS REALLY NOT GOING TO HAVE A MAJOR TENANT. NBA IS NOT GOING TO WORK IN THIS CITY. HOCKEY HAS BEEN HERE SINCE 1967.

WE DO NEED A NEW ARENA FOR A LOT OF MAJOR EVENTS, NO QUESTION. BUT THAT IS THE PROBLEM. IF THIS DOES NOT WORK OUR MAYOR AND OTHER LEADERS WILL COME TO US IN SAY 2008, 2009 AND ASK US TAXPAYERS TO HELP BUILD A NEW FACILITY WHEN WE

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

AN ARENA IN ANOTHER CITY AS PART OF A SALE WHY WOULD THEY NOT CONSIDER IT. WHY, IF YOU ARE OFFERED ONE AS PART OF DEAL WOULD YOU PAY FOR ONE HERE.

IT IS ONLY A SMART BUSINESS DEAL IF YOU ARE THE PENGUIN OWNERS TO TAKE THE SUPERIOR OFFER.

STAY WITH PITTSBURGH FIRST,

OR LEAVE IF THE SLOTS ARE AWARDED ELSEWHERE.

I, DONALD E HERRLE verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Donald E. Herrle



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Jaqueline Trivino

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: None

Employer: N/A

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I am writing in support of the Isle of Capri plan to receive the slot license in Pittsburgh. I think this plan would be the best plan for the City, We need a new arena and this plan will do that without taxpayer money. I want the Pittsburgh Penguins to stay in Pittsburgh, if this is not approved, the City will suffer, the penguins will leave and I won't be spending any money in Pittsburgh, Hockey brings many people to the City and they spend their dollars. Without a new arena and the Penguins we will loose a lot of economic security. Pittsburgh is a sports city and the Penguins keep people traveling to the city during the winter months. The Penguins also, because of their history as Stanley Cup winners, fits with the pride of Pittsburgh being a city of Champions.

Please support the plan that pleases everyone and taxpayers alike and stimulates

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

economic growth to the entire City of Pittsburgh area. That plan is the Isle of Capri

I, Jacqueline Trivilino verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jacqueline Trivilino



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: MARK SCUMACI

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

WASHINGTON MUTUAL

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

BORN AND RAISED IN THE BURG.  
AND HOW PROUD I AM OF THE CITY  
OF CHAMPIONS. I AS A KID REMEM  
4 SUPERBOWLS (NOW 5) 2 WORLD SER  
ANY YES, 2 STANLEY CUPS.

MARIE MADE THE PENS, BROUGHT  
A CHAMPION TO THE CITY AND IS  
A GREAT EXAMPLE OF A MAN.  
I BEG YOU, LET MARIO WIN  
THIS. Nobody, AND I MEAN Nobody  
DESERVES IT MORE.

I, Marie Scumaci verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Marie Scumaci

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

FILED

MAY - 9 2006

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Charles J Rodkey  
Address:   
Telephone: E-mail:   
Employer: Keystone Oaks School District

5/3/06

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

This letter is written in support of the **Isle of Capri** proposal for the Pittsburgh license.

This particular proposal truly makes the most economic sense for the region at multiple levels, while providing the least detrimental impact on traffic and infrastructure. Since our region is in dire need of a new multi-purpose arena, the IOC proposal is spot on from that perspective as well. We all benefit from the economic engine of the arena events, and the IOC proposal is the most certain to retain them and the considerable tax revenues they generate.

The planned development of a blighted section of the City of Pittsburgh is a compelling positive argument for IOC. In as much as the Lower Hill District could be made one of a vibrant and thriving portion of the city with the right mix of residential and commercial investment, why not take this opportunity to have private money be the catalyst for the its revival?

Additionally, I am concerned about the Harrah's proposal as it relates to further traffic congestion and over-development of one portion of our region. Station Square is already booming and will be so for the foreseeable future, why not spread the development around and allow NEW tax revenues be generated from a part of town which currently is not producing much at all?

Traffic, which is already sluggish, and infrastructure, which is already at or near capacity in the Carson St corridor, would not be served well by the thousands of additional vehicle trips Harrah's would bring.

The North Shore is also thriving without further impetus, and will be developed to its maximum potential without the slots license driving future investment. It has the stadiums and a gentrified neighborhood to attract and hold consumer dollars.

Please consider these points when deliberating your final decision; the Isle of Capri has the potential for the most positive impact for our region, while providing the fewest detriments.

