



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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For Immediate Release: August 1, 2010

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**STATEMENT FROM SENATORS MOORE AND CHANDLER REGARDING CASINO VOTE**

Senator Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester) and Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) cast their votes in favor of the conference committee report to allow expanded gaming in Massachusetts.

Both Senator Chandler and Senator Moore had expressed earlier reservations in supporting a Conference measure that allows up to two category two licenses for slots. Both Senators would have preferred a final bill absent of category two licenses. However, they voted in favor of the bill because of the authority given to the Governor in determining the total number of category two licenses that may be granted. In addition, the final bill is an important investment in our economy given the 15,000 jobs anticipated by its passage.

Some of the key points which weighed heavily in casting their final vote included the following:

- The Governor is given the authority to establish members of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission. The Governor, the Attorney General and the Treasurer are each allowed one appointee to the Commission.
- The other two appointees of the five member commission are appointed by the approval of two out of the three appointing authorities. This gives the Governor significant additional authority over the commission.
- The Governor also designates the Chair of the Commission, although, it is not required that the chair be the governor's appointee.
- The authorizing language states that the Commission "may" issue not more than two category two licenses, but is not required to license any. This allows for the issuance of as few as none, one or two of these categories of licenses.

"We believe that the Governor has the necessary authority in this bill and that he will exercise extreme caution when making his determinations in putting together the Commission and that they will reflect his and our views on expanded gaming" said Sen. Chandler.

"The Governor has repeatedly committed to allowing no more than one category two license and at best no more than three resort style casinos and we fully expect him to hold true to that promise" said Sen. Moore.

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