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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

exposing the dark side of gambling

MO House Republican Campaign Committee rejects future contributions from gambling special interests

HRCC says NO to casino campaign contributions

ST. LOUIS (11/27/07) – The House Republican Campaign Committee (HRCC) has informed Casino Watch that it will no longer accept campaign contributions from gambling special interests.

Casino Watch recently sent a package to every elected member of the Missouri General Assembly that detailed the financial contributions casinos made in the last election cycle and urged them to sign a pledge to respectfully return all future campaign contributions from any contributor who represents gambling special interests.

“The response to our casino contribution packets has been positive,” explains Executive Director Evelio Silvera, “We have had state Representatives and Senators sign the pledge and several elected officials from both political parties quickly responded to us indicating that they had never accepted or received contributions from casino and gambling special interests.”

The stance taken by the HRCC is an indication that elected officials understand that voters are concerned with the escalating amount of special interest dollars being poured into campaigns and the negative influence it is having on our state.

“We are pleased that the HRCC has decided to reject future campaign contributions from gambling special interests,” stated Silvera, **“We look forward to their counterparts in the Democratic Party and the Missouri Senate taking a similar stance.”**

(For a copy of the entire casino campaign contribution packet including the Casino Watch pledge, which was sent to every member of the Missouri General Assembly, please contact our office or visit www.casinowatch.org and click the link entitled “Casino Dollars Influencing the MO Legislature?”)

Casino Watch is a watchdog organization solely dedicated to exposing the dark side of gambling. For more information please visit www.casinowatch.org.

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