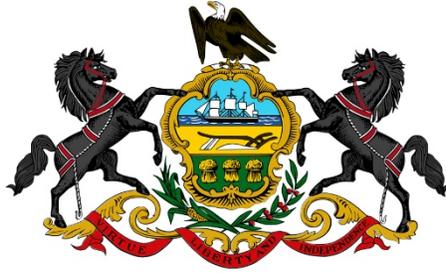


SENATOR
RYAN P. AUMENT
36TH DISTRICT



SENATOR
SCOTT F. MARTIN
13TH DISTRICT

Senate of Pennsylvania

November 1, 2017

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, Pennsylvania ZIP

Dear NAME:

As you may be aware and *despite our strong opposition*, the General Assembly recently passed and Governor Wolf signed into law gambling legislation to help the Commonwealth meet our 2017-18 state funding obligations.

The new law significantly expands and decentralizes legalized gambling in Pennsylvania, including authorizing the siting of new “mini-casinos” across our state.

Two sections of the bill allow for municipalities to **opt-out** of allowing certain instances of gambling expansion from taking place in their respective areas.

We felt it was important to bring this to your attention not only because we believe that opting out is in the best interests of our constituents, but because the deadline to do so is **December 31, 2017**.

We have included the relevant sections of law for your review with this letter.

While we are very disappointed that this legislation has been approved, we are pleased that a local option was included to protect areas like Lancaster County that would rather not permit these newly authorized casinos to locate in their communities.

It is important to also note that licenses for these casinos are limited, and even if you choose not to opt-out, there is no guarantee that a Category 4 casino license would be issued to an applicant to locate in your municipality.

Furthermore, you should know that this local option has no effect on truck stops which will see an expansion of gambling through the introduction of Video Gaming Terminals (VGTs).

There are specific limitations on which truck stops can install VGTs including the number of commercial parking spaces, amount of diesel fuel sold in a year, and an acreage requirement.

Our offices are currently looking into whether any existing Lancaster County truck stops meet this criteria. The full list of these limitations can be found under Section 3102 of the new law, which is attached to this letter.

Due to the urgency of this issue and the short time-frame that municipalities must make a decision to opt-out, we strongly urge you to look over this language as soon as possible and schedule consideration of a resolution at your next public municipal meeting.

Municipalities electing to opt-out must also deliver a copy of their opt-out resolution to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board by the deadline, December 31.

Our offices stand ready to assist your municipality, should you need help.

We all know that Lancaster County is special.

Truly, there is no other place in Pennsylvania or the United States that has the heritage, character and culture that we are blessed with, and we all have been entrusted with preserving those important qualities and our way of life.

However, the time has come and you must make a choice about what is best and we hope you will carefully consider the social and other impacts that gambling has on our people, communities and economy and make an appropriate decision.

We genuinely believe that this legislation is wrong for Pennsylvania, and if you believe the same, you must take action.

Sincerely,



RYAN P. AUMENT
State Senator
36th Senatorial District



SCOTT F. MARTIN
State Senator
13th Senatorial District

RPA/SFM/jgs

Enclosure

RELEVANT SECTIONS OF NEW GAMBLING LAW

[\(Act 42 of 2017\)](#)

Section 1305.1 (A.1) (1) and (2) contain the provisions for municipal opt-out on Category 4 Licenses:

(A.1) MUNICIPAL OPTION.—

(1) PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF AN AUCTION UNDER SECTION 1305.2, EACH MUNICIPALITY SHALL HAVE THE OPTION TO PROHIBIT THE LOCATION OF A CATEGORY 4 LICENSED FACILITY WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY BY DELIVERING A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S GOVERNING BODY TO THE BOARD NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2017. NO CATEGORY 4 LICENSED FACILITY MAY BE LOCATED IN A MUNICIPALITY WHICH HAS EXERCISED ITS OPTION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

(2) A MUNICIPALITY THAT PROHIBITS THE LOCATION OF A CATEGORY 4 LICENSED FACILITY WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY UNDER SUBSECTION (A) MAY RESCIND THAT PROHIBITION AT ANY TIME BY DELIVERING A NEW RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S GOVERNING BODY TO THE BOARD. A MUNICIPALITY THAT RESCINDS ITS PRIOR PROHIBITION ACCORDING TO THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT SUBSEQUENTLY PROHIBIT THE LOCATION OF A CATEGORY 4 LICENSED FACILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY.

Section 3102 contains the following provisions:

"TRUCK STOP ESTABLISHMENT." A PREMISES THAT:

(1) IS EQUIPPED WITH DIESEL ISLANDS USED FOR FUELING COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

(2) HAS SOLD ON AVERAGE 50,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL OR BIODIESEL FUEL EACH MONTH FOR THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS OR IS PROJECTED TO SELL AN AVERAGE OF 50,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL OR BIODIESEL FUEL EACH MONTH FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

(3) HAS AT LEAST 20 PARKING SPACES DEDICATED FOR COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

(4) HAS A CONVENIENCE STORE.

(5) IS SITUATED ON A PARCEL OF LAND OF NOT LESS THAN THREE ACRES THAT THE TRUCK STOP ESTABLISHMENT OWNS OR LEASES.

(6) IS NOT LOCATED ON ANY PROPERTY OWNED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE.