

WIN, PLACE OR SLOTS

RACINO PROPONENTS AND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS IN MICHIGAN

By

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This winter, the Michigan Senate will vote on a series of bills that would allow slot machine gambling at the state's seven race tracks and also allow off-track betting on horse racing. House Bills 4609, 4610 and 4611 — known as the "racino" package because they would allow casinostyle gambling at the tracks — won approval last year in the Michigan House of Representatives.

While supporters will be lobbying at the state Capitol this year, their efforts to push these bills through began long before the state Legislature convened last year.

During the 2002 election cycle, racino proponents gave about \$411,000 in campaign contributions to winning candidates who now sit in the state Legislature. They also gave to state officeholders — primarily Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who led all candidates in gambling contributions, with \$65,254.

Proponents of the racino legislation believe it will enhance the state's struggling horse-racing industry, while opponents fear racinos will compete with the state's casinos and increase the state's dependency on gambling revenue.

In addition to agricultural entities, such as the Michigan Farm Bureau and the Michigan Harness Horsemens' Association, racino supporters include several unions, such as the Michigan Education Association, the state's Teamsters Union and the state AFL-CIO, as well as the law firm of Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, Inc.

The following table details the contributions that racino proponents made during the 2002 election cycle to winning legislative and statewide candidates who are now in a position to act on the pending legislation.

PROPONENTS	CONTRIBUTIONS
Michigan Education Association/MEA	\$146,887
Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, Inc.	\$88,972
Michigan Farm Bureau	\$74,650
Michigan Harness Horsemens' Association/MHHA	\$39,625
Michigan Teamsters	\$30,883
Michigan Racing Association	\$8,400
Horsemens Benevolent & Protective Association/HBPA	\$7,275
Michigan Thoroughbreds First	\$5,200
Michigan State AFL-CIO	\$3,525
Steel Workers District 2 PAC Michigan	\$2,825
Magna Entertainment Corp.	\$2,400
William Spike	\$300
TOTAL	410,941

By comparison, the only opponent to contribute to current officeholders was the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC, which gave \$51,456 during the 2002 election cycle.

Michigan's 110 House members received nearly \$194,000 from the bills' proponents, for an average of \$1,761 per representative. However, the nine members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management who voted to pass the bills out of committee received an average of \$3,482 from the proponents, more than triple the \$891 average received by the two committee members who voted against the bills in committee — Republicans Lauren Hager and

John Stahl. Further, those holding leadership positions in the House received an average of \$2,474 from proponents.

House members who voted for the bills on the floor received an average of \$2,099 from racino supporters, almost double the \$1,126 average received by those who voted against the bills.

This year, the bills must first pass out of the Senate Gaming and Casino Oversight Committee. The five members of that committee, who also hold leadership positions in the Senate, received an average of \$3,785, or slightly higher than the \$3,452 average received by other Senate members. Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema received \$3,450 from racino supporters but has not come out with his position. He has, however, agreed not to block the legislation and to allow for a Senate floor discussion and debate, if the bills are approved by the committee.

If approved by the full Senate, the bills would then go to Gov. Granholm's desk to be signed into law. Unlike her predecessor, former Gov. John Engler, Granholm is not dead-set against the bills, since the state is struggling with a \$900 million budget deficit. The deficit is seen by some as the racino bills' biggest ally.¹

The proponents also gave \$14,100 to two justices currently on the Supreme Court. Elizabeth Weaver received \$9,000, and Robert Young received \$5,100. Each received \$4,000 from the Michigan Farm Bureau alone.

The following table details the contributions that winning statewide and legislative candidates received from racino proponents.

STATEWIDE OFFICIALS	PARTY	OFFICE	DISTRICT	RACINO \$
Granholm, Jennifer M.	D	Governor	SW	\$65,254
Weaver, Elizabeth A.	NP	Supreme Court	SW	\$9,000
Young Jr., Robert P.	NP	Supreme Court	SW	\$5,100
Cox, Michael A.	R	Attorney General	SW	\$5,000
		STATEV	\$84,354	
SENATORS				
Allen, Jason E.	R	Senate	37	\$2,350
Barcia, James	D	Senate	31	\$6,250
Basham, Raymond E.	D	Senate	8	\$2,700
Bernero, Virgil P.	D	Senate	23	\$5,225
Birkholz, Patricia L.	R	Senate	24	\$6,800
Bishop, Michael D.	R	Senate	12	\$3,775
Brater, Elizabeth S.	D	Senate	18	\$1,500
Brown, Cameron S.	R	Senate	16	\$200
Cassis, Nancy C.	R	Senate	15	\$150
Cherry, Deborah L.	D	Senate	26	\$4,725
Clark, Irma	D	Senate	3	\$900
Clarke, Hansen	D	Senate	1	\$850

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¹ "'Racino' Legislation Gets Boost Statewide," December 9, 2003, *BlackJack Magazine*, http://www.BlackJackMagazine.com/managearticle.asp?c=310&a=2992, Jan. 15, 2004.

SENATORS	PARTY	OFFICE	DISTRICT	RACINO \$
Cropsey, Alan L.	R	Senate	33	\$1,000
Emerson, Robert L.	D	Senate	27	\$3,950
Garcia, Valde	R	Senate	22	\$3,253
George, Thomas M.	R	Senate	20	\$1,800
Gilbert II, Judson S.	R	Senate	25	\$3,100
Goschka, Mike J.	R	Senate	32	\$2,925
Hammerstrom, Beverly	R	Senate	17	\$3,400
Hardiman, Bill	R	Senate	29	\$500
Jacobs, Gilda Z.	D	Senate	14	\$2,800
Jelinek, Ronald L.	R	Senate	21	\$11,600
Johnson, Shirley	R	Senate	13	\$3,825
Kuipers, Wayne D.	R	Senate	30	\$0
Leland, Burton	D	Senate	5	\$1,850
McManus, Michelle	R	Senate	35	\$1,150
Olshove, Dennis	D	Senate	9	\$2,050
Patterson, Bruce	R	Senate	7	\$7,550
Prusi, Michael	D	Senate	38	\$11,650
Sanborn, Alan B.	R	Senate	11	\$1,000
Schauer, Mark H.	D	Senate	19	\$1,850
Scott, Martha G.	D	Senate	2	\$350
Sikkema, Kenneth R.	R	Senate	28	\$3,450
Stamas, Tony N.	R	Senate	36	\$5,275
Switalski, Michael N.	D	Senate	10	\$14,200
Thomas III, Samuel Buzz	D	Senate	4	\$1,350
Toy, Laura M.	R	Senate	6	\$4,200
Van Woerkom, Gerald R.	R	Senate	34	\$3,350
		SE	NATE TOTAL	\$132,853
REPRESENTATIVES				
Accavitti Jr., Frank	D	House	42	\$650
Acciavatti, Daniel J.	R	House	32	\$0
Adamini, Stephen F.	D	House	109	\$2,500
Amos, Fran	R	House	43	\$500
Anderson, Glenn S.	D	House	18	\$725
Bieda, Steven M.	D	House	25	\$250
Bisbee, Clark E.	R	House	64	\$1,125
Bradstreet, Kenneth L.	R	House	105	\$1,330
Brandenburg, John M.	R	House	24	\$0
Brown, Richard J.	D	House	110	\$4,375
Byrum, Dianne	D	House	67	\$2,100
Casperson, Tom	R	House	108	\$2,600
Caswell, Bruce	R	House	58	\$3,200
Caul, Sandy	R	House	99	\$2,600
Cheeks, Marsha	D	House	6	\$0
Clack, Brenda	D	House	34	\$1,000
Condino, Paul	D	House	35	\$2,000
Daniels, Kenneth R.	D	House	2	\$550
Dennis, Julie	D	House	92	\$3,050
DeRoche, Craig	R	House	38	\$250
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REPRESENTATIVES	PARTY	OFFICE	DISTRICT	RACINO \$
DeRossett, Oscar Gene	R	House	52	\$8,750
Drolet, Leon C.	R	House	33	\$0
Ehardt, Stephen R.	R	House	83	\$4,625
Elkins, Jennifer	D	House	97	\$2,300
Emmons, Judy K.	R	House	70	\$5,750
Farhat, David	R	House	91	\$500
Farrah, Barbara	D	House	13	\$250
Gaffney, Edward	R	House	1	\$5,500
Garfield, John	R	House	45	\$0
Gieleghem, Paul	D	House	31	\$4,700
Gillard, Matthew	D	House	106	\$5,250
Gleason, John J.	D	House	48	\$1,750
Hager, Lauren M	R	House	81	\$1,782
Hart, Douglas S.	R	House	73	\$250
Hood III, Morris	D	House	11	\$0
Hoogendyk Jr., Jacob	R	House	61	\$0
Hopgood, Hoon-Yung	D	House	22	\$2,390
Howell, James C.	R	House	94	\$1,900
Huizenga, William P.	R	House	90	\$1,500
Hummel, Scott A.	R	House	93	\$825
Hune, Joe	R	House	47	\$2,875
Hunter, Tupac	D	House	9	\$1,150
Jamnick, Ruth Ann	D	House	54	\$875
Johnson, Rick V.	R	House	102	\$1,875
Johnson, Ruth A.	R	House	46	\$1,350
Julian, Larry E.	R	House	85	\$3,600
Koetje, James L.	R	House	86	\$1,650
Kolb, Christopher C.	D	House	53	\$1,500
Kooiman, Germaine	R	House	75	\$2,337
Kratz, Gerald*	R	House	65	\$250
LaJoy, Philip J.	R	House	21	\$0
LaSata, Charles T.	R	House	79	\$2,800
Law, Kathleen	D	House	23	\$1,400
Lipsey, Alexander C.	D	House	60	\$1,250
McConico, William C.	D	House	5	\$1,000
Meisner, Andrew E.	D	House	27	\$2,500
Meyer, Tom L.	R	House	84	\$1,250
Middaugh, Mary Ann	R	House	80	\$600
Milosch, Matt	R	House	55	\$0
Minore, Jack D.	D	House	49	\$1,300
Moolenaar, John	R	House	98	\$1,800
Murphy, Michael C.	D	House	68	\$2,175
Newell, Gary A.	R	House	87	\$1,782
Nitz, Neal M.	R	House	78	\$5,000
Nofs, Michael	R	House	62	\$1,000
O'Neil, William	D	House	14	\$1,100
Paletko, Daniel	D	House	17	\$5,300
Palmer, Brian P.	R	House	36	\$10,900
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^{*} Rep. Gerald Kratz died in January 2003, before the House voted on the racino package.

REPRESENTATIVES	PARTY	OFFICE	DISTRICT	RACINO \$
Palsrok, David W.	R	House	101	\$1,875
Pappageorge, John	R	House	41	\$450
Pastor, John	R	House	19	\$0
Phillips, Clarence E.	D	House	29	\$1,150
Plakas, Jim A.	D	House	16	\$2,200
Pumford, Mike	R	House	100	\$5,650
Reeves, Triette E.	D	House	10	\$0
Richardville, Randy J.	R	House	56	\$3,025
Rivet, Joseph L.	D	House	96	\$2,489
Robertson, David B.	R	House	51	\$0
Rocca, Sal	R	House	30	\$2,000
Sak, Michael	D	House	76	\$0
Shackleton, Scott	R	House	107	\$2,950
Shaffer, Rick	R	House	59	\$0
Sheen, Fulton J.	R	House	88	\$0
Sheltrown, Dale E.	D	House	103	\$1,775
Shulman, Marc I.	R	House	39	\$2,550
Smith, Virgil	D	House	7	\$250
Spade, Douglas Jay	D	House	57	\$5,200
Stahl, John	R	House	82	\$0
Stako, John	R	House	44	\$100
Stallworth, Alma	D	House	8	\$0
Steil Jr., Glenn	R	House	72	\$350
Stewart, John C.	R	House	20	\$3,150
Tabor, Susan L.	R	House	71	\$1,250
Taub, Shelley Goodman	R	House	40	\$1,000
Tinsley Hardman, Artina	D	House	3	\$1,525
Tobocman, Steven H.	D	House	12	\$0
Vagnozzi, Aldo	D	House	37	\$5,300
VanRegenmorter, William	R	House	74	\$0
Vander Veen, Barbara G.	R	House	89	\$850
Voorhees, Joanne M.	R	House	77	\$125
Walker, Howard C.	R	House	104	\$500
Ward, Christopher C.	R	House	66	\$0
Waters, Mary	D	House	4	\$1,300
Wenke, Lorence	R	House	63	\$0
Whitmer, Gretchen	D	House	69	\$3,325
Williams, Carl M.	D	House	95	\$450
Wojno, Lisa R.	D	House	28	\$5,300
Woodward, Dave T.	D	House	26	\$750
Woronchak, Gary A.	R	House	15	\$600
Zelenko, Paula	D	House	50	\$850

HOUSE TOTAL \$193,734