

# Western Massachusetts

Casino Task Force

MEMBER  
COMMUNITIES:

Belchertown The Honorable Therese Murray  
Senate President  
Massachusetts Senate  
Brimfield State House - Room 332  
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Brookfield Dear Representative Murray:

Hampden For the past three years, the Western Massachusetts Casino Task Force (WMCAT) has focused on  
the potential economic, social and quality of life impacts that expanded gambling/gaming,  
Holland specifically casinos, would have on the communities in our region.

Ludlow As the General Court moves forward to discuss and debate another version of expanded  
gambling/gaming legislation, WMCAT respectfully requests that you firmly support Senate Docket  
No. 00339, as filed by Senator Stephen M. Brewer, which calls for "*an independent analysis of  
expanded gaming in the Commonwealth*".

Monson Although it is felt by some that such an analysis is unnecessary, costly and time-consuming, similar  
studies in neighboring states have been conducted in a timely, thorough and cost-effective manner.  
Palmer Prior to finalizing any gaming legislation and siting any gaming facilities in the state, it is imperative  
that a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis be undertaken which will accurately assess the positive  
Sturbridge and negative impacts on a host community, neighboring communities and the state as a whole. Such  
an assessment will also serve as an economic tool to determine short, mid and long-term fiscal  
Wales impacts and to assist in the establishment of parameters for mitigation funds.

Ware Thank you for in advance for your attention to this matter. We appreciate the diligence and attention  
you have committed to this issue. Please protect the communities that we call home throughout any  
considerations of expanded gambling in the Commonwealth.

Warren Sincerely,

West Brookfield  
Wilbraham

Edward S. Harrison, Chairman  
Western Massachusetts Casino Task Force

cc: Governor Deval Patrick  
Attorney General Martha Coakley  
Inspector General Gregory W. Sullivan  
State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump  
Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies