



Casino Gaming Bill H3702

Statement adopted by a unanimous vote of

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors September 7, 2011

In the advent of enabling legislation for casino gaming in Massachusetts, the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce / CVB is concerned about the impact of a resort-style casino in Southeastern Massachusetts **on the labor pool for Barnstable County and the potential to draw workforce out of the region.** Cape Cod is heavily reliant on the visitor industry for employment, which grows by 15 to 25% in the peak summer season. During peak season, the Cape and Islands have a historical pattern of seeking temporary seasonal workers from other countries through the H2B and J1 Visa programs to find sufficient workforce.

Therefore, the Cape Cod Chamber requests that an amendment to Section 18 as inserted below:

SECTION 18. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 2BBBB the following 3 sections.....

Section 2DDDD. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Gaming Economic Development Fund. The fund shall be credited with revenues transferred to it from the Gaming Revenue Fund established in section 59 of chapter 23K. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, subject to appropriation, to support economic development and job growth including, but not limited to: (1) workforce training, including transfers to the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund; **funds to be administered by the existing workforce development system led by local Workforce Development Boards for retraining workers in contiguous counties negatively impacted by casino employment;** (2) tourism promotion, including regional tourism promotion agencies and cultural and recreational attraction promotion; (3) summer jobs; (4) the Massachusetts Marketing Partnership; (5) higher education scholarships; (6) regional economic development initiatives; (7) support for small businesses, including small business lending; (8) green jobs promotion; (9) science, technology, engineering and mathematics career pipeline initiatives; and (10) agricultural development programs, including youth agricultural education. be amended to reference