

Honorary Co-Chairs

President Gerald R. Ford
Richard M. DeVos

Members

Michael Jandernoa, Chair
Peter F. Secchia, Vice-Chair
Dean Agee
Bill Beckmen
Bob Bernecker
Dirk Bloemendaal
Todd Boorsma
Robert Boylen
Tommy Brann
Jim Buck
Gaylen Byker
John Canepa
David Cassard
Peter Cook
Bruce Courtade
Robert Dean
Harvey Gainey
David Gibbons
Gary Granger
James Hackett
Bill & Clova Hardiman
Bryan Harrison
Dick Haworth
Ken Hoeksum
Earl & Donnalee Holton
Bob & Judy Hooker
Robert Jonker
Larry Leigh
John D. Loeks
John Logie
Don & Nancy Lubbers
David Mehney
Rusty Merchant
David Morren
Beth Nickels
Tim O'Donovan
Vern Ohlman
Chris Panopoulos
Dick Posthumus
Elsa Prince-Broekhuizen
Gene Proctor
Sharron Reynolds
Rex Rogers
Richard Root
Robert Roth
Chuck & Stella Royce
Joan Secchia
John Spoelhoff
Jim Stringham
Chuck Stoddard
Art Tanis
Roosevelt Tillman
David VanAndel
Mike Volkema
Harold Voorhees
John Wheeler
Jim White
Dave Willerup
Casey Wondergem
Chuck Yob
Francisco Vega

PAC Manager

John Helmholdt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Helmholdt
Phone: 616-481-2152

Voters Have Spoken: No to Casino Expansion

It's Time for State, Federal Lawmakers to Follow Suit

Tuesday, November 9, 2004 – Last Tuesday, by an overwhelming 58-42 margin, Michigan voters passed Proposal 04-01, sending a clear message to state and federal lawmakers- *It's time to stop casino expansion in Michigan.*

Proposal 1, which will require a local and statewide vote of approval before any new non-tribal casinos gambling will be allowed to operate, presents a virtual insurmountable political obstacle to gaming interests who wish to open new casino-like gaming activities in Michigan.

The “23 is Enough” Political Action Committee, a group of business and community leaders opposing casino expansion in Michigan, maintains passage of Proposal 1 is a step in the right direction toward stopping casino expansion, but new state and federal action is needed to address the rampant proliferation of tribal casinos in Michigan and throughout the country.

“Unfortunately, Proposal 1 could not go far enough to include the most rampant form of gambling expansion in Michigan and throughout our nation—tribal casinos,” noted Mike Jandernoa, Chair of 23 is Enough.

Today, “23 is Enough” announced legislative efforts to stop casino expansion in Michigan and establish Michigan as a national leader in the fight to stop tribal casino expansion. Key components of the public policy goals include passage of: a resolution calling on Congress to impose a moratorium on all new tribal casinos until the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) is reformed to give voters and states more rights; a resolution calling on Governor Granholm to oppose new and unsigned tribal gaming compacts until IGRA is reformed to give voters and states more rights; and a resolution calling on the Governors and state Legislatures in the other 49 states to pass similar resolutions that apply pressure on the federal government to take action immediately.

“With a record turnout and overwhelming voter opposition to casino expansion, Governor Granholm and lawmakers in Michigan should take note of the anti-casino sentiment and be quick to take action to address the unbridled tribal casino expansion at the state and national level,” said Jandernoa. “Federal tribal gaming laws must be reformed to give state voters more rights on tribal gaming expansion and state governments must stand-up against casino special interests by opposing new compacts.”

Passage of Proposal 1 is reflective of a growing national trend of opposition to casino expansion in any form. Gambling or gambling-related ballot measures were the second most common ballot issue this election year nationwide, most notably voters overwhelmingly opposed casino and gambling expansion in California, Michigan, and Nebraska.