

1 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you. Are there any questions
2 or comments for Sohee? Commissioner Leone

3 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Yes, I have a question. You
4 mentioned -- and I know how difficult it is to get estimates of
5 the cost of some of these pathologies, but you did use a couple
6 of figures, and I just wondered what the source was and if you
7 know, how the source generated those numbers.

8 MS. PARK: For example, the one of Thompson?

9 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Well, particularly the one that
10 built up to I think it was 147 --

11 MS. PARK: Oh, the billion dollars. This is from a
12 law review; I have the source with me here. It was the Journal
13 of Law and Commerce, Development or dreamfield delusions?:
14 assessing casino gambling's costs and benefits. They have very
15 much made an overall analysis of what has been so far measured on
16 this issue, and I think they measured the gambling debt in
17 different states and the incarceration and the regulatory costs.
18 And because they are lawyers, I think they more focused on the
19 legal aspect and the debt, so more of it is more that they could
20 measure, it was not more, say, social costs that are not
21 measurable like lost funding or spousal and child abuse costs.
22 So this is an approximation.

23 COMMISSIONER LEONE: It would be interesting to get
24 that article and have somebody look behind it and see, because
25 that's very different from any other thing we've seen or heard.

26 CHAIRMAN JAMES: That we've heard to date.

27 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I'd be curious about that.

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1 MS. PARK: One of the things that the author
2 mentioned was that these costs could be underestimated.

3 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I'm just interested in how they
4 estimated them at all and what sources of data.

5 CHAIRMAN JAMES: The methodology that was used to
6 come up with that number.

7 Commissioner Bible.

8 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Not a question but a request:
9 would you contact some of the trade associations for the
10 insurance groups, or perhaps the insurance regulatory groups, and
11 get some data on mandated coverages -- because a number of states
12 mandate coverage, for instance, for alcoholism, a number of
13 states mandate coverage for drug abuse -- and just create a grid
14 that shows state by state which states mandate coverage for which
15 diseases: alcoholism, drug abuse -- my presumption is no states
16 mandate coverage for pathological gambling -- and then indicate
17 what the benefit is, because I know a number of states cap the
18 benefit; for instance, there's a \$10,000 annual benefit for
19 alcoholism in the state of Nevada -- just to provide that sort of
20 information.

21 MS. PARK: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Yes, Commissioner Wilhelm.

23 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: As many, or perhaps all of the
24 commissioners know, Commissioner Bible has announced his
25 retirement from his position as the chairman of the Nevada Gaming
26 Control Board on the 18th of September. I think the
27 commissioners also know that Commissioner Bible has been
28 recognized by the Nevada Council on Compulsive Gambling for his

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1 leadership in his capacity as Nevada's principal regulator on the
2 issue of compulsive gambling. He has taken a number of
3 initiatives in this area.

4 It's my observation or impression that some of the
5 responsible companies in the industry have been very supportive
6 of Commissioner Bible's initiatives in this area, and frankly,
7 that there have been some companies that have been somewhat
8 concerned about his initiatives in this area.

9 I would express the hope, if I could, to the Chair
10 that before Commissioner Bible finds other employment that
11 perhaps in our waning months here we could take advantage of his
12 greater time to help us in formulating the basis for our
13 conclusions in general, but in particular in the area of
14 compulsive gambling as well as in the regulatory areas about
15 which he is an acknowledged expert. He is widely regarded as, I
16 think it's fair to say, the most effective public servant in the
17 history of Nevada, and having worked with public servants in many
18 other jurisdictions, I would say that he would stack up in that
19 same category anywhere in the country.

20 So I think his newfound unemployment -- which I bet
21 won't last very long -- could be of great benefit to this
22 Commission.

23 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you, Commissioner Wilhelm, and
24 I just want to let you know that the Chair was two steps ahead of
25 you --

26 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: As always.

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1 CHAIRMAN JAMES: -- because I already had a
2 conversation with Commissioner Bible. I offered him co-chair of
3 the Commission but he wouldn't take it.

4 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I can't imagine why.
5 (Laughter.)

6 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And I appreciate your kind
7 comments. I'm going to probably not have a lot of time until the
8 end of hunting season.

9 (Laughter.)

10 CHAIRMAN JAMES: But I can think of several areas
11 where we could greatly benefit from that, and I've asked him if
12 he would let me know of his availability to work very closely
13 with us on not only this area but also on the Internet and
14 several other areas where he has a great deal of interest and a
15 great deal of expertise, and I look forward to that.

16 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I'm delighted that you've done
17 that. I would just point out to Commissioner Bible that there's
18 hunting and then there's hunting.

19 (Laughter.)

20 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you.

21 Any other questions or comments for Sohee? Thank you
22 very much; I appreciate that. That was an excellent report and
23 we appreciate your hard work.

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