

1 Mr. Walker? Which one is Mr. Walker? Mr.
2 Walker.

3 Good afternoon. May I ask the audience to
4 please come to order, this is a very important panel.
5 These are important people that we need to hear from,
6 and I would ask you to carry your conversations to the
7 lobby.

8 Thank you. Please.

9 MR. WALKER: Good afternoon, Madam Chair
10 and Commissioners. We appreciate the opportunity to
11 speak on an issue that should be front and center in
12 the debate over the net social and economic impacts of
13 gambling.

14 At issue is the quality of jobs in the
15 gaming industry. Our union represents some 75,000
16 casino, card club and race track employees across the
17 United States, including about 13,000 right here in
18 Atlantic City. That is more than any other labor
19 organization. We are uniquely qualified to address
20 the issue of job quality.

21 Assessing job quality in the gaming
22 industry is more complicated than one would guess from

1 listening to those who advocate for or against
2 gambling, we hope to cut through the rhetoric and give
3 you some tools to assess the quality of gaming
4 industry jobs in Atlantic City and wherever else the
5 Commission may travel.

6 Specifically, we want to give you four
7 criteria upon which to evaluate job quality. Income,
8 does the job pay well enough to support a family?
9 Health insurance, does it provide family medical
10 benefits at an affordable price? Pension, does it
11 offer retirement benefits? Job security, is the job
12 going to be there next year?

13 In a moment, we are going to take you
14 through these four criteria, but first to give you a
15 little background on our union and its membership here
16 in Atlantic City, I would like to introduce Bob
17 McDevitt, the President of Local 54, which represents
18 employees of all 12 Atlantic City casinos.

19 Bob?

20 MR. McDEVITT: Thank you, Matt.

21 Members of the panel, Madam Chairman,
22 welcome to Atlantic City, my home town. Thank you for