

1 figures to arrive at that conclusion, just listen to
2 some of these casino workers seated here with me this
3 afternoon.

4 MR. McDEVITT: I'd like to introduce them
5 to you prior to their speaking, so we don't have to go
6 through this again.

7 We have William Lee, a gourmet food server,
8 Edmundo Velasquez, a kitchen utility worker, Devon
9 Brenner, a food server, Taria Manns, cocktail server
10 and way in the wings is Jerry Breedon, a bartender.

11 MR. LEE: Good afternoon, my name is
12 William Lee, and I work as a gourmet server at Resorts
13 Hotel Casino in Atlantic City. I also serve as a shop
14 steward for Local 54.

15 I feel that it is very important that this
16 Commission take a good look at the many positives of
17 the gaming industry, an industry that we, the voters
18 of New Jersey, selected by way of referendum.

19 I have heard many of my co-workers over the
20 years tell me that without casino gaming they would
21 not be living in this area. I have met many people
22 who live here, and who have lived here during the down

1 periods before casino gaming, and were forced out due
2 to the lack of quality job opportunities.

3 Today, I can say that my family has
4 benefitted in many ways due to my union and the gaming
5 industry.

6 I moved here to Atlantic City in 1981 to
7 open up Playboy Casino Hotel. The reason I came to
8 this area was to provide my family with a better
9 opportunity and quality of life by working in the
10 gaming industry. Through this industry, I was able to
11 buy a new home here in Atlantic City almost ten years
12 ago. Yes, I, too, am one of the many people in this
13 area who enjoy the fact that I have a good job, with
14 good health benefits, job security and real income.
15 I can truly say the opportunities are here.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. VELASQUEZ: (This testimony is given
18 through an interpreter.)

19 I'm going to be brief in my story, and I
20 appreciate the opportunity that you have afforded me
21 to speak in Spanish.

22 I am an immigrant from Chile, who has been