

1 would only be even. They concluded that there could
2 be a net loss of up to 20,000 jobs if a casino came
3 in.

4 And finally, regarding state budget
5 impact, our research uncovered that the long-term
6 costs associated with casinos oftentimes outweigh the
7 gains. Indeed, we found that for any locality to
8 conclude that casinos are a positive economic force
9 without analyzing the cost is a little like a highway
10 administrator claiming that the roads to be in good
11 shape as long as you don't consider the potholes.

12 I appreciate this opportunity to speak
13 before you this afternoon.

14 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Mark Andrews.

15 MR. ANDREWS: My name is Mark Andrews.
16 I'm from St. Louis, Missouri. This is Mark Andrews
17 speaking. I'm from St. Louis, Missouri, where I've
18 run a manufacturing business for 35 years.

19 I'm here today to talk about the deceit
20 and unethical behavior of the casino industry. In all
21 my years in business, I have never seen a company do
22 to its customers, its competitors, or the general

1 public what casinos have done to us in Missouri.

2 They've pulled off the biggest bait and
3 switch in Missouri history. We were sold on
4 nostalgic, old time river boats that would only
5 conduct gambling during two-hour cruises with betting
6 limits in place to prevent addiction. In just two
7 years now, we have massive casinos, decorated to look
8 like boats, no engines in them, located off the river
9 in manmade pools, and addiction problems that are
10 plaguing our Department of Mental Health.

11 In 1994, six months after Missouri voters
12 defeated the gambling agenda, the casinos spent a
13 whopping \$12 million, biggest in state history, to buy
14 and win a new election. Because I rallied 1,000
15 people and \$200,000 to oppose their 12 million, they
16 trumped up charges against me personally, claiming I
17 had ties to the Nazis. Fortunately a TV station
18 discovered their written plan of attack and exposed
19 them on that evening's news.

20 Their own press spokesman was so disturbed
21 by their unethical behavior and their actions during
22 the campaign that afterwards he gave a blow-by-blow

1 account of how the casino industry bought the State of
2 Missouri.

3 And, yes, the deception goes on. This
4 legislative session in Missouri the casinos tried to
5 remove the betting limits imposed by state law by
6 bringing in testimony designed to distort the true
7 position of both the Missouri State Teachers
8 Association and the National Council on Problem
9 Gambling. Again, their deception was discovered.

10 On October 22, our state supreme court
11 will hear a landmark case this year concerning the
12 ability of casinos to circumvent the clear and
13 constitutional requirement that casinos only be
14 located on our two rivers. Missouri voters placed
15 this limitation on the gambling industry to avoid the
16 evils of land based casinos.

17 The gambling industry and sympathetic
18 state regulators have thwarted this clear will of the
19 people by building casinos in manmade basins away from
20 the rivers. This grasping attitude of the gambling
21 industry corrupts our state government and
22 demonstrates the futility of placing any limitation on

1 gambling once it is allowed to enter a state.

2 This Commission has before it an
3 outstanding opportunity to research the moral,
4 political, and financial cost of the gambling industry
5 that it imposes on our nation. You will do a great
6 service to Americans.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Ms. Blackwell.

9 MS. BLACKWELL: Madame Chairman and
10 Commissioners, I'm Helen Blackwell. I'm Chairman of
11 the Voting Integrity Project, a national, nonprofit,
12 nonpartisan organization dedicated to educating and
13 equipping Americans to safeguard the integrity of
14 their elections in their communities.

15 On request from local citizens, we will
16 provide independent investigations of alleged vote
17 fraud. We're the only national organization with this
18 mission, and we have noted certain patterns in
19 election fraud.

20 One such pattern, the apparent link
21 between gambling and vote fraud, is strongly suggested
22 by two of our recent investigations. My written