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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Casinos are draining

In response to Rachelle Cohen's State View "How Cahill wants to squeeze the casino beast" in the Thursday, August 2 edition of The Daily News Transcript, Ms. Cohen questions Treasurer Cahill's expectations, but does not acknowledge what the treasurer clearly knows, that this type of business is particularly draining to local economies.

As stated in Cohen's article, the state of Connecticut gets about 25 percent of the revenue from the slot machines, a disputed \$500 million. The League would like to point out the often forgotten points that taxes in Connecticut have risen since the opening of the casinos and some of the towns where the casinos are located have

even gone bankrupt since the casinos came in. If the \$500 million in supposed revenue is not being used to lower state taxes and assist local economies, where is it going? Studies show that for every \$1 received in taxes from casino gambling it costs taxpayers \$3. That should be a big clue.

I think it's time for the officials of Massachusetts to take a closer look at the true costs of the gambling industry on localities and I applaud our treasurer for realizing that there are many.

DIANE L. JEFFERY
President
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