









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## Casinos: What's at stake

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Issue 3 was placed on the Nov. 3 ballot to amend the Ohio Constitution.

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It would give Penn National Gambling Inc. and Rock Ventures LLC operating rights to four casinos in Ohio that would offer table games and slot machines 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Penn National casinos would be located in Columbus and Toledo; the latter group's would be in Cleveland and Cincinnati.

### What's at stake

**THE REGION:** Southeast Indiana's three casinos make the region the nation's 13th-largest gambling market with \$731.7 million in total 2008 revenues. August revenues declined to \$60.3 million, from \$62.4 million a year ago. Attendance of 670,000 visits was up from 624,000 last year.

Dan Gilbert, whose Rock Ventures owns mortgage lender Quicken Loans and the Cleveland Cavaliers, has an option to buy 20 acres at Broadway Commons and plans to build a casino projected to take in \$517.3 million a year by 2013. His casino would attract 5 million visitors a year

**STATEWIDE:** Ohio residents spend an estimated \$1.4 billion a year gambling in other states. If gambling proponents were able to meet forecasts, Ohio could become the No. 3 gambling state in America behind Nevada and New Jersey.

### PROponents SAY AMENDMENT WILL:

Spearhead downtown redevelopment.

Generate private investments of more than \$1 billion and create more than 34,000 jobs - 19,000 in construction; 16,000 permanent\*.

Help Ohio reclaim \$1 billion of about \$1.4 billion being spent annually by residents in out-of-state casinos.

Deliver \$200 million in licensing fees with a commitment to first-class facilities, along with a 33 percent tax rate on gross revenue that will generate \$651 million per year for schools and local and state governments. That rate would be fourth-highest among 13 states with commercial casinos.


\*According to studies conducted by the University of Cincinnati's Economics Center for Education & Research and The Innovation Group, a private consulting firm, on behalf of the casino proponents.

### OPponents SAY THE AMENDMENT:

Is a tax on the poor being forced upon Ohioans, who have overwhelmingly rejected it four times.

Lacks competitive bidding. Instead, each casino would pay a one-time licensing fee of \$50 million. Casinos in nearby states have generated licensing fees of between \$250 million and \$400 million apiece. Massachusetts may seek \$500 million for each of two planned casinos.

Its fixed 33 percent on gross revenue would be one of the lowest in the nation and well below average for casinos outside of Nevada and Atlantic City.



Raw Video: Mark Mallory and Brad Wenstrup respond to a tweeted question regarding a casino for downtown...

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