

SAVE TEXAS!
KEEP GAMBLING OUT!



DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

Please prayerfully consider joining me in contacting our politicians to urge them to keep the corrosive expansion of gambling out of the Lone Star State! For years, the Gaming Industry has lobbied our Legislature to legalize gambling in Texas. Currently, two bills before the legislature would legalize several types of gambling: mobile sports betting, casinos, and other in-house venues.



Texas has so many wonderful assets and opportunities. Our state is still a place where people can *work hard* and *thrive*. Legalized gambling brings with it many negative side effects. At its core, gambling targets the poor. Exploiting their circumstances with an illusion of a jackpot is simply a form of regressive taxation. Without exception, states that have legalized gambling have seen increased criminal activity, including financial crimes, prostitution, sex trafficking and gambling addiction.

The lottery provides some insight into the pitfalls of expanded legalized gambling. Currently, in Texas, lottery players spending most of their monthly income on tickets are people with incomes that fall **under the poverty line**. This is simply another example of regressive taxation. The gambling industry understands and exploits this.

I have yet to meet a single person who has sustained wealth from gambling. Yet, over the years, I have counseled and consoled many people who have fallen prey to the addictive lure of something for nothing.

We must mount a strong defense. Please join me in contacting your state representative and senator to voice your opposition to legalized gambling in the State of Texas. Don't forget that our politicians work for us! Let your representatives know your concerns!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Joann". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a long, trailing flourish that extends to the right.

Call or email our state officials, as well as your local representative, and let them know you are against legalizing gambling in Texas and why. Let your voice be heard and save Texas!

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CONS TO LEGALIZED GAMBLING

- Gambling bleeds millions of dollars out of our state.
- Gambling is a regressive form of taxation.
- Gambling hurts the people who can least afford it.
- Gambling is highly addictive. Most people do not sustain wealth from gambling.
- Gambling brings in corruption, sexual exploitation and prostitution.
- Casino gambling hurts local businesses. For example, because they bring in big money, casinos can charge significantly less for food, which takes away from local restaurants.

