



Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith

District 46, Lincoln & Pawtucket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Shallcross Smith encourages override vote on governor's veto of referendum allowing Twin River to become a full-fledged casino.

Lincoln, Rhode Island – August 29, 2010

STATE HOUSE – Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith, endorsed Democrat, District 46, Lincoln/Pawtucket has met with legislative leaders to encourage an override vote on the governor's veto of a referendum on allowing Twin River to become a full-fledged casino.

She specifically asked that legislative leaders call back legislators, who have recessed for the year, for a special session to override the veto. The leaders are still discussing that possibility.

"I feel strongly that the people of Lincoln and Rhode Island should have the opportunity to decide whether to have casinos here. Our state is already struggling with deficits, and if our neighbors in Massachusetts approve casinos as they are discussing, Rhode Island and the Town of Lincoln stand to lose a lot of money if our facilities can't compete. I'm very disappointed that the governor vetoed the people's opportunity to decide," said Representative Shallcross Smith.

The state gets 61 percent of revenues generated by gaming at its two slot parlors. A study commissioned by Twin River estimated that if Massachusetts allows casinos and Rhode Island does not, the state would lose \$97.1 million annually and Lincoln would lose \$2.3 million of the 6 million it receives from Twin River each year.

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