

UNITEHERE!

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June 23, 2008

Dear Representative:

UNITE HERE, the primary Union for gaming employees, as well as, hotel, restaurant, food services respectfully asks that you vote **NO** on HR 2176 and HR 4115 when they reach the House floor this week.

This proposal to establish two casinos outside Detroit would be a serious economic mistake. The voters of Michigan decided to limit casino gambling to the City of Detroit, except for tribal casinos established on tribal lands in accordance with Federal tribal gaming law. The state's voters did this because Detroit badly needs economic development.

Because of that decision by the voters, \$3 billion in new capital has been invested in Detroit by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Ilich family, and MGM Mirage. Nine thousand new jobs have been created in Detroit because of this enormous investment. The overwhelming majority of these badly needed new jobs are Union jobs, with good wages, excellent health care benefits, a retirement plan, and opportunities for advancement.

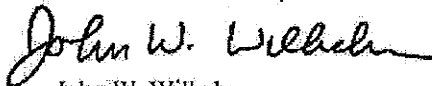
This investment and these jobs have been of enormous benefit to Detroit. More than half of the workers live in the City of Detroit, and people of color and women have in particular benefited from these jobs. The three casinos have also paid more than \$2 billion in taxes to the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan.

This is a success story for Detroit. But its continued viability is not assured. Greektown Casino, one of the three, is in bankruptcy. Both the Ilich family at Motor City Casino and MGM Mirage at MGM Grand Detroit have just made enormous new investments, totaling over \$1 billion, in an effort to ensure the economic viability of these enterprises.

In the face of the additional economic challenges to Detroit resulting from the struggles of the US auto industry, it would be a terrible blow to Detroit and to these workers, and would fly in the face of the decision by the voters of Michigan, for the Congress to bypass regular procedures and create these additional casinos that would directly compete with the Detroit casinos.

We respectfully urge a **NO** vote on HR 2176 and HR 4115. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John W. Wilhelm
President/Hospitality Industry