

September 2, 2004

Senator Jon Kyl
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Kyl:

As a diverse bipartisan coalition of family and faith-based organizations, we continue to be very concerned with the effects of gambling on our society and the well-being of young people and families. We thank you for your perseverance in supporting a strong bill (S. 627) against Internet Gambling.

However, it has come to our attention that gambling lobby groups have managed to stall S. 627 by asking for exclusions and any number of language changes in the bill designed to maintain and promote their expansion of gambling among American citizens and families.

We have reviewed the language changes to S. 627 which pare down the bill's intent by focusing solely on sports betting and wagering and are in support of this action with two provisos. First that there be nothing in the new language to prevent future legislation on this issue. Secondly, that the pared-down bill contain no exclusions.

We have decided to maintain our support for the bill with the two provisos because we support any hindrance to expansion of gambling however incremental the legislation may be.

Once again, we thank you for your continued work on this issue. We look forward action on this bill and will continue to be available for assistance in advocating for strong legislation preventing expansion of gambling.

Sincerely,

The Christian Coalition
Family Research Council
Focus on the Family
National Coalition Against Gambling Expansion
National Council of Churches in the USA
Presbyterian Church USA
Southern Baptist Convention
General Board of Church and Society United Methodist Church

Copy: Senator Shelby, Senator Sarbanes