

MISSOURI GAMING COMMISSION



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GAMING COMMISSION RELEASES

FY04 ANNUAL REPORT TO MISSOURI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri - Wednesday, September 21, 2004.

Today the Missouri Gaming Commission announced that in compliance with one of its statutory mandates it has released its Fiscal Year 2004 - Annual Report to the Missouri General Assembly. The report is a seventy-six page document and presents an end of the year snapshot and summary of the Commission's 2004 regulatory activities.

In the report the Commission identifies several legislative recommendations to the General Assembly including, repealing the requirement that the Commission report on the effect of the loss limit on the competitiveness of Missouri casinos, expanding enforcement authority of Commission gaming agents, requiring casinos to pay interest on delinquent admission fees, and requiring that jackpot winnings from problem gamblers who have voluntarily

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banned themselves from the casinos be placed in a fund for problem gambling prevention and treatment(funds currently go to the casinos).

The report shows that there was an 8% growth (\$1.3 billion to \$1.4 billion) in statewide gaming revenue from FY03. Harold Bailey, the Commission's Public Information Officer stated that the Commission contributes this growth to an increase in patron volume and a higher slot hold percentage. He stated the higher slot hold resulted in an increase in the casino's win per patron. According to the report gaming tax, admission fees, casino employment, and casino company capitol investment all show increases over the previous year.

The Commission also reported that there are over 7,200 persons on the state's list of people who voluntary exclude themselves after admitting that they are problem gamblers. The report states that approximately 115 applications a month are received by the Commission from people wanting to be placed on this list.

Regular bingo licenses in the state are reported as continuing to decline. (FY04 - 483, FY03-517 and FY02- 550)

The report is posted on the Commission's website at <http://www.mgc.dps.mo.gov>. Printed copies of the report may be obtained from the Commission's Jefferson City Office (573)526-4080, Kansas City Office (816)482-5704 or St. Louis Office (314)340-4400.

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