RANDY VULAKOVICH, MEMBER 30[™] LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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COMMITTEES

Environmental Resources & Energy Aging & Older Adult Services Gaming Oversight

CAUCUSES

Alzheimer's
Autism
Bi-Partisan Reform
Firefighter's & Emergency Services
People with Intellectual Disabilities
Veterans

DATE:

January 28, 2011

TO:

Members of the House of Representatives

FROM:

Representative Randy Vulakovich

SUBJECT:

Co-Sponsorship of Legislation to Provide for a Gaming Budget for the Auditor

General

In the near future, I plan on introducing legislation to provide funding for the Auditor General for audits the office completes on casino gambling in the Commonwealth.

Since the inception of casino gambling, the Office of Attorney General, the Pennsylvania State Police and the Department of Revenue are all reimbursed by the gaming facilities for their responsibilities under the Gaming Act (Title 4).

It is time for the gaming industry, not the taxpayers, to pay for audits by the Auditor General of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and related gaming activities.

Overall for the 2010-11 fiscal year, the office of Auditor General sustained a 10.7% budget cut. Governor Rendell then asked each department in the Commonwealth to make an additional 1.9% cut in their budget.

One of the ways to alleviate these budget shortfalls is to have the casinos pay for the responsibilities of the office of the Auditor General the way they pay for the Attorney General and State Police. The Auditor General is predicting the annual cost of ongoing audits of gaming would cost approximately \$300,000 to \$350,000 annually.

My legislation would alleviate some of the shortfalls for the Auditor General, and take the burden from the already scarce General Fund and place it with the gaming facilities.

If you wish to sponsor my legislation, please contact Patricia Geiger 717-260-6407 or by email at pgeiger@pahousegop.com. Thank you.

RV/pg

AN ACT

- 1 Amending Title 4 (Amusements) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
- Statutes, further providing for general and specific powers,
- for gross terminal revenue deductions and for itemized budget
- 4 reporting.
- 5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 6 hereby enacts as follows:
- 7 Section 1. Section 1202(b)(28) and (29) of Title 4 of the
- 8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:
- 9 § 1202. General and specific powers.
- 10 * * *
- 11 (b) Specific powers.--The board shall have the specific
- 12 power and duty:
- 13 * * *
- 14 (28) To prepare and, through the Governor, submit
- annually to the General Assembly an itemized budget
- 16 consistent with Article VI of the act of April 9, 1929
- 17 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929,
- 18 consisting of the amounts necessary to be appropriated by the

- 1 General Assembly out of the accounts established under
- 2 section 1401 (relating to slot machine licensee deposits)
- 3 required to meet the obligations accruing during the fiscal
- 4 period beginning July 1 of the following year. The budget
- 5 shall include itemized recommendations for the Attorney
- 6 General, the Auditor General, the department and the
- 7 Pennsylvania State Police as to the amount needed to meet
- 8 their obligations under this part.
- 9 (29) In the event that, in any year, appropriations for
- the administration of this part are not enacted by June 30,
- any funds appropriated for the administration of this part
- which are unexpended, uncommitted and unencumbered at the end
- of a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure by
- the board [or other agency to which they were appropriated],
- the department, the Pennsylvania State Police, the Auditor
- 16 General or the Attorney General until the enactment of
- appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year.
- 18 * * *
- 19 Section 2. Sections 1402(a) (4) and 1402.1(a) of Title 4,
- 20 amended January 7, 2010 (P.L.1, No.1), are amended to read:
- 21 § 1402. Gross terminal revenue deductions.
- 22 (a) Deductions.--After determining the appropriate
- 23 assessments for each slot machine licensee, the department shall
- 24 determine costs, expenses or payments from each account
- 25 established under section 1401 (relating to slot machine
- 26 licensee deposits). The following costs and expenses shall be
- 27 transferred to the appropriate agency upon appropriation by the
- 28 General Assembly:
- 29 * * *
- 30 (4) The costs and expenses to be incurred by the

- 1 Pennsylvania State Police, the Office of the Auditor General
- and the Office of Attorney General and not otherwise
- 3 reimbursed under this part in carrying out their respective
- 4 responsibilities under this part based upon budgets submitted
- by the Pennsylvania State Police, the Auditor General and the
- 6 Attorney General under section 1402.1.
- 7 * * *
- 8 § 1402.1. Itemized budget reporting.
- 9 (a) Submission. -- The board, department, Pennsylvania State
- 10 Police, Office of the Auditor General and Office of Attorney
- 11 General shall prepare and annually submit to the chairman of the
- 12 Appropriations Committee of the Senate and the chairman of the
- 13 Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives an
- 14 itemized budget consisting of amounts to be appropriated out of
- 15 the accounts established under section 1401 (relating to slot
- 16 machine licensee deposits) necessary to administer this part.
- 17 The department, Pennsylvania State Police, Office of the Auditor
- 18 General and Office of Attorney General shall provide copies of
- 19 their itemized budgets to the board at the same time they are
- 20 submitted to the chairmen of the committees.
- 21 * * *
- 22 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.