

Gambling on the Ohio Legislature:

Contributions from the gambling industry and proponents

1999-2002

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Gambling Contributions Total Over \$1 Million

Ohio Candidates and political party committees received \$1,035,069 from the gambling industry and proponents from 1999 through the most recent filings. Current members of the Ohio General Assembly received a total of \$220,525. Speaker of the House Larry Householder alone received \$38,550. Political party and caucus committees received \$685,926.

The gambling industry lives up to their name. Governor Bob Taft, a vocal opponent of expanding gambling received \$60,450.

Top organizational contributors to candidates and Ohio political party and caucus committees—

- Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, \$152,550
- Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, \$111,650
- Northfield Park, \$47,568

Contributions from proponents of gambling to Ohio's Republican National State Elections Committee totaled \$554,076. Top contributors include-

- Stanley Fulton, Anchor Gaming \$500,000
- Stephen Wynn, Former Owner of the Mirage & CEO of Wynn Resorts \$49,000

· Larry Ruvo, Board Member of American Gaming Association \$5,000

These major donors are all from Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lobbyists for the gambling industry who represent multiple clients contributed a total of \$142,481. Lobbyists Neil S. Clark and Paul Tipps advocate for International Gaming Technology (IGT) and together contributed \$82,038.

Anti-gambling contributions, including Ohio Roundtable employees, totaled only \$300.

Background

Senator Louis Blessing (R-Cincinnati) introduced legislation on November 19, 2002 that would expand gambling in Ohio. Senate Bill 313 (SB 313) would allow Ohio's seven racetracks to operate electronic gaming devices, or video slot machines. The State Lottery Commission would be responsible for the purchase, maintenance and repair of the video slot machines. The Lottery Commission would also be responsible for collecting 51.5% of the proceeds, which is intended for school funding.

The racetracks would receive 37.5% of the gross proceeds generated by the gaming devices and 10.5% for reimbursement of "costs and damages" from the operation of electronic gaming devices.

The proposed video slot machines would operate 21 hours a day. Of the gross that the Lottery Commission receives in SB 313 1/2% must be used for the treatment and prevention of the problem gambling.

SB 313 was referred to the Senate Agriculture Committee. Last year the Ways and Means Committee considered a similar proposal but did not have the votes to move it out of committee. The bill includes an emergency clause that makes it effective immediately upon passage, rather than after 90 days. To pass emergency legislation two-thirds (2/3) of both houses must vote for the bill. In 1990 and 1996, ballot initiatives to expand gambling in Ohio were voted down.

Contributions from Gambling Industry & Proponents

This study examines contributions to statewide and legislative candidates and party and caucus committees from 1999-2001 and available contribution information for 2002. The last contribution report provided information through October 16, 2002. Candidates who are

term-limited out and those who are not up for re-election (half of the Ohio Senate) are not required to report contributions until the annual filing in January.

1999-2002 Contributions from the Gambling Industry & Proponents of Gambling*

	Total
All Candidates	\$349,143
All Political Party Committees	\$685,926
Total	\$1,035,069
Anti-Gambling Expansion Contributions	\$300

***Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.**

	Total*
Members of the Current General Assembly	\$220,525
Current Statewide Office Holders	\$93,750
Ohio Democratic Political Party & Caucus Committees	\$19,500
Ohio Republican Party & Caucus Committees	\$112,350
Republican National State Elections Committee	\$554,076

***Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.**

Contributions to 2002 Statewide Candidates from Gambling Industry & Proponents

Candidates	Total*
Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell	\$2,500
Treasurer Joe Deters	\$3,500
Tim Hagan Candidate for Governor	\$8,668
Senator Leigh Herington	\$2,250
Attorney General Betty Montgomery	\$7,500
Justice Elect Maureen O'Connor	\$3,850
Auditor Jim Petro	\$12,350
Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton	\$3,600
Governor Bob Taft	\$60,450
Totals	\$104,668

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry. Candidates not included did not receive contributions from gambling interests or proponents.

1999-2002 Contributions to 2002 Ohio Senate Agriculture Committee from Gambling Industry & Proponents*

Committee Members	Total

Larry Mumper, Chair (R-Marion)	\$1,500
Jim Jordan, Vice Chair (R-Urbana)	\$500
Tom Roberts, Minority Leader (D-Dayton)	\$1,750
Jeffrey Armbruster (R-Ridgeville)	\$4,100
Jim Carnes (R-St. Clairsville)	\$500
Greg DiDonato (D-Dennison)	\$1,250
Bill Harris (R-Ashland)	\$3,500
Doug White (R-Manchester)	\$3,850
Total	\$16,950

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

Contributions to Ohio Political Party & Caucus Committees*

Committee	Total
House Democratic Caucus Fund	\$8,500
Ohio Senate Democrats	\$11,000
Ohio House Republican Campaign Committee	\$44,700
Ohio Republican Party State Candidate Fund	\$2,500
Ohio Republican State Central	\$1,500
Ray C. Bliss Building Trust Fund	\$15,000
Republican Senate Campaign Committee	\$48,650
Total	\$131,850

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

Top Contributions to the Republican National State (Ohio) Elections Committee*

Contributor	Gambling Interest	City & State	Total
Stanley Fulton	Anchor Gaming Manager	Las Vegas, NV	\$500,000
Larry Ruvo	On the Board of the American Gaming Association	Las Vegas, NV	\$5,000
Stephen Wynn	Former Owner of the Mirage & CEO of Wynn Resorts	Las Vegas, NV	\$49,000

*The Republican National State Elections Committee is the Ohio Republican Party's federal party fund. None of the gaming interest contributors to this fund are from Ohio.

Contributions from Gambling Industry Outside Ohio to Statewide & Legislative Candidates and Ohio Political Party & Caucus Committees 1999-2002

Company	State	Total
Louisiana Downs	Louisiana	\$11,400
GTech	Rhode Island	\$11,200
International Games Technology (IGT)	Nevada	\$5,000
Delaware North Companies	New York	\$4,500
Harrah's Entertainment	Nevada	\$4,250
MTR Gaming Group	West Virginia	\$3,500

*Totals include contributions from PACs and employees

SB 313 allows an "electronic lottery sales agent," or racetracks, and the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association or Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association to agree in writing that an amount equal to 1% of the gross proceeds of slot machines would go to a designated

horsemen's organization (i.e. the Ohio Fairs Fund, the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund) until 2008. The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association contributed a total of \$111,650.

1999-2002 Top 10 Organizational Contributors from the Gambling Industry & Proponents of Gambling to Ohio Statewide & Legislative Candidates and Political Party & Caucus Committees

Organization	Type	Total
1. Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association**	Proponent	\$152,550*
2. Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association***	Proponent	\$111,650*
3. Northfield Park	Racetrack	\$47,568*
4. River Downs	Racetrack	\$34,650*
5. Chester Willcox & Saxbe****	Gambling Lobbyists	\$23,000
6. Lebanon Raceway	Racetrack	\$20,650*
7. Thistledowns	Racetrack	\$19,000*
8. Louisiana Downs	Racetrack	\$11,400*
9. GTech Corporation	Supplier and operator of video slot machines	\$11,200*
10. Scioto Downs	Racetrack	\$9,500*

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

**Includes contributions from the Thoroughbred PAC

***Includes contributions from the PAC for Equine Racing

****Contributors from this firm are identified as only lobbying for gambling interests

John J. Chester, counsel for Governor Bob Taft in the school funding mediation, is also a registered lobbyist for Scioto Downs and does not identify lobbying the legislature for other clients. He contributed \$19,900 from 1999 through the most current 2002 filing.

Top Individual Contributors 1999-2002 to Ohio Statewide & Legislative Candidates and Ohio Political Party and Caucus Committees

Contributor	Gambling Connection	Amount
Brock Milstein	Northfield Park	\$34,800
Corwin Nixon	Lebanon Raceway	\$20,650
John Chester	Registered Lobbyist for Scioto Downs	\$19,900
John York	Owner Louisiana Downs, Board Member Magna Entertainment	\$9,900
Laverne Hill	Scioto Downs	\$8,000
George Gaulding, Jr.	River Downs	\$6,750
William Murphy	Thistle Downs	\$6,500
Edward Jack Hanessian	River Downs	\$6,000
Jeffrey Jacobs	Jacobs Entertainment	\$4,500
Boake Sells	Board Member Harrah's Entertainment	\$4,250

GTech employees gave a total of \$11,200. \$10,200 of those contributions came from 29 employees from nine different states (Rhode Island, Maryland, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Missouri, California, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Ohio). These contributions were all given to Governor Bob Taft on dates ranging from 12/27/01-12/31/01.

1999-2002 Contributions to Candidates and Political Party Committees
from Lobbyists who Advocate for Gaming Interests But also Represent
Others

Lobbyist	Gambling Interest	Total
Scott Borgemenke	Raceway Park, Inc.	\$1,000
Brooke Cheney	Northfield Park	\$8,685
Neil S. Clark	International Gaming Technology (IGT)	\$8,449
Robert Doyle	Riverdowns	\$6,135
N. Victor Goodman	Thistledown Racing Club	\$10,116
Jack Haught	Thistledown Racing Club	\$861
Richard Hillis	Norhfield Park	\$17,000
Victor Hipsley	Northfield Park	\$280
Douglas McMarlin	International Gaming Technology	\$7,495
Kelly O'Reilly	Northfield Park	\$35
C. David Paragas	Thistledown Racing Club	\$8,836

Paul Tipps	International Gaming Technology (IGT)	\$73,589
Total		\$142,481

1999-2002 Contributions to Ohio General Assembly from Gambling Industry & Proponents

Ohio Senate

Member	Total*
Senator Ron Amstutz (R-Wooster)	\$1,875
Senator Jeffry Armbruster (R-Ridgeville)	\$4,100
Senator Steve Austria (R-Beavercreek)	\$850
Senator Louis Blessing (R-Cincinnati)	\$2,750
Senator Dan Brady (D-Cleveland)	\$1,000
Senator Jim Carnes (R-St. Clairsville)	\$500
Senator Kevin Coughlin (R-Cuyahoga Falls)	\$6,100
Senator Greg DiDonato (D-Dennison)	\$1,250

Senator Ben Espy (D-Columbus)	\$0
Senator Richard Finan (R-Cincinnati)	\$3,000
Senator Eric Fingerhut (D-Cleveland)	\$1,250
Senator Linda Furney (D-Toledo)	\$0
Senator Randall Gardner (R-Bowling Green)	\$2,450
Senator Robert Gardner (R-Madison)	\$1,200
Senator David Goodman (R-Bexley)	\$3,400
Senator Robert Hagan (D-Youngstown)	\$0
Senator Bill Harris (R-Ashland)	\$3,500
Senator Leigh Herington (D-Ravenna)	\$2,250
Senator Jay Hottinger (R-Newark)	\$3,000
Senator Jeff Jacobson (R-Brookville)	\$1,000
Senator Jim Jordan (R-Urbana)	\$500
Senator Mark Mallory (D-Cincinnati)	\$2,000
Senator Priscilla Mead (R-Upper Arlington)	\$1,850
Senator Larry Mumper (R-Marion)	\$1,500
Senator Scott Nein (R-Middletown)	\$2,000

Senator W. Scott Oelslager (R-Canton)	\$400
Senator C.J. Prentiss (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Senator Tom Roberts (D-Dayton)	\$1,750
Senator Tim Ryan (D-Niles)	\$250
Senator Michael Shoemaker (D-Bourneville)	\$750
Senator Robert Spada (R-Parma Heights)	\$500
Senator Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon)	\$5,000
Senator Doug White (R-Manchester)	\$3,850
Ohio Senate Total	\$59,825

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

Ohio House

Member	Total *
Rep. Dixie Allen (D-Dayton)	\$500
Rep. Jim Aslanides (R-Coshocton)	\$1,150
Rep. Catherine Barrett (D-Cincinnati)	\$750
Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus)	\$250

Rep. Charles Blasdel (R-East Liverpool)	\$3,000
Rep. John Bocchieri (D-North Middletown)	\$750
Rep. Tom Brinkman, Jr. (R-Cincinnati)	\$600
Rep. Samuel Britton (D-Cincinnati)	\$0
Rep. Edna Brown (D-Toledo)	\$0
Rep. Stephen Buehrer (R-Delta)	\$2,750
Rep. Jamie Callender (R-Willowick)	\$1,200
Rep. Charles Calvert (R-Medina)	\$3,750
Rep. Kenneth Carano (D-Youngstown)	\$750
Rep. John Carey (R-Wellston)	\$3,750
Rep. Jim Carmichael (R-Wooster)	\$1,600
Rep. Gary Cates (R-West Chester)	\$4,150
Rep. Mary Cirelli (D-Canton)	\$0
Rep. Patricia Clancy (R-Cincinnati)	\$3,000
Rep. Wayne Coates (D-Forest Park)	\$800
Rep. Thomas Collier (R-Mt. Vernon)	\$750
Rep. Tony Core (R-Rushsylvania)	\$1,000

Rep. Rex Damschroder (R-Fremont)	\$400
Rep. Michael DeBose (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Rep. Dean DePiero (D-Parma)	\$3,750
Rep. Kevin DeWine (D-Fairborn)	\$2,150
Rep. L. George Distel (D-Conneaut)	\$1,550
Rep. Steve Driehaus (D-Cincinnati)	\$500
Rep. David Evans (R-Newark)	\$3,000
Rep. Keith Faber (R-Celina)	\$2,750
Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo)	\$0
Rep. Diana Fessler (R-New Carlisle)	\$0
Rep. Bryan Flannery (D-Lakewood)	\$0
Rep. Larry Flowers (R-Canal Winchester)	\$300

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

Member	Total*
Rep. Mike Gilb (R-Findlay)	\$1,350
Rep. Timothy Grendell (R-Chesterland)	\$5,850

Rep. John Hagan (R-Alliance)	\$500
Rep. William Hartnett (D-Mansfield)	\$2,500
Rep. Nancy Hollister (R-Marietta)	\$400
Rep. James M. Hoops (R-Napolean)	\$2,150
Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford)	\$38,550
Rep. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus)	\$3,650
Rep. Jon Husted (R-Kettering)	\$3,400
Rep. Ed Jerse (D-Euclid)	\$0
Rep. Gregory Jolivette (R-Hamilton)	\$1,150
Rep. Merle Grace Kearns (R-Springfield)	\$650
Rep. Annie L. Key (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Rep. Sally Conway Kilbane (R-Rocky River)	\$250
Rep. Joe Koziura (D-Lorain)	\$0
Rep. K. Eileen Krupinski (D-Stubenville)	\$500
Rep. Anthony Latell, Jr. (D-Girard)	\$650
Rep. Robert E. Latta (R-Bowling Green)	\$500
Rep. J. Tom Lendrum (R-Huron)	\$750
Rep. Jeffrey Manning (R-North Ridgeville)	\$750
Rep. Lance T. Mason (D-Shaker Heights)	\$0
Rep. Jim McGregor (R-Gahanna)	\$0

Rep. Kerry Metzger (R-New Philadelphia)	\$650
Rep. Dale Miller (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Rep. Ray Miller (D-Columbus)	\$600
Rep. Tom Niehaus (R-New Richmond)	\$550
Rep. Mary Rose Oakar (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Rep. Bill Ogg (D-Sciotoville)	\$250
Rep. Lynn Olman (R-Maumee)	\$3,550
Rep. Robert Otterman (D-Akron)	\$600
Rep. Sylvester Patton (D-Youngstown)	\$750
Rep. Jeanine Perry (D-Toledo)	\$500
Rep. Jon Peterson (R-Delaware)	\$2,100

*Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.

Member	Total*
Rep. Tom Raga (R-Mason)	\$4,350
Rep. Chris Redfern (D-Port Clinton)	\$1,250
Rep. Linda Reidelbach (R-Columbus)	\$250

Rep. Stephen Reinhard (R-Bucyrus)	\$0
Rep. Ron Rhine (D-Springfield)	\$300
Rep. Twyla Roman (R-Akron)	\$100
Rep. Amy Salerno (R-Columbus)	\$300
Rep. Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster)	\$1,400
Rep. Jean Schmidt (R-Loveland)	\$2,550
Rep. Michelle Schneider (R-Cincinnati)	\$1,550
Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton)	\$3,650
Rep. Derrick Seaver (D-Minster)	\$0
Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati)	\$1,650
Rep. Arlene Setzer (R-Vandalia)	\$0
Rep. Daniel Sferra (D-Warren)	\$750
Rep. Geoffrey Smith (R-Columbus)	\$3,200
Rep. Shirley Smith (D-Cleveland)	\$0
Rep. Dennis Stapleton (R-Washington Court House)	\$1,850
Rep. Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton)	\$750
Rep. Erin Sullivan (D-Strongsville)	\$0
Rep. Joseph Sulzer (D-Chillicothe)	\$500
Rep. Barbara Sykes (D-Akron)	\$0
Rep. James Trakas (R-Independence)	\$5,000
Rep. Shawn Webster (R-Sycamore)	\$1,250
Rep. John J. White (R-Kettering)	\$300
Rep. John Widowfield (R-Cuyahoga Falls)	\$750
Rep. John Williamowski (R-Lima)	\$750

Rep. Bryan Williams (R-Akron)	\$1,150
Rep. Charles Wilson, Jr. (D-St. Clairsville)	\$1,900
Rep. Larry Wolpert (R-Hilliard)	\$400
Rep. Ann Womer Benjamin (R-Aurora)	\$400
Rep. Claudette Woodard (D-Cleveland Heights)	\$500
Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy)	\$5,900
Ohio House Total	\$160,700
	\$220,525
Ohio General Assembly Total	

***Totals include contributions from PACs, employees and lobbyists who only advocate specifically for members of the gambling industry.**

Methodology

The Citizens Policy Center analyzed contributions from 1999-2001 to statewide and legislative candidates, legislative caucuses and statewide political party committees. Totals include contributions from political action committees (PACs), labor unions, organizations and individuals.

This study used a methodology developed by Larry Makinson, director of the Center for Responsive Politics, to categorize economic sectors. The method is described in the book *Follow the Money*. For a copy, contact the Center for Responsive Politics at (202)-857-0044.

The 1999-2001 database is based on campaign finance reports available in computerized form from the Ohio Secretary of State.

To identify the employers of contributors, the Citizens Policy Center obtained the following databases:

- Databases of architects, doctors, dentists, funeral directors and certified public accountants registered to do business in Ohio from the Ohio Division of Administrative services,
- A database from the Ohio Supreme Court of attorneys in Ohio,
- A list of lobbyists in Ohio from the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee,
- The *InfoUSA PowerFinder*, a national phone directory on CD,
- The 1997-1998 *Take the Money and Win* database and for the 2001 contributions the 1999-2000 *Run for the Money* database in which the Center had prepared an analysis of 1999-2000 contributors,
- A list of contributors to Political Action Committees in Ohio

For each candidate the total amount in this database includes the following:

- Contributions received
- Contributions received at a social or fundraising event
- In-kind contributions received
- Contributions the candidate gave to his or her own campaign

The contribution information from 2002 does not include all of the activity during 2002 so far but only what was available. The 2002 contributions were downloaded directly from the Secretary of State and are available on-line at www.state.oh.us/sos/. This raw data was downloaded through the file transfer protocol (FTP). The 2002 data has not been thoroughly standardized and cleaned by the Citizens Policy Center. Standardizing and cleaning determines unidentified employers and clearly identifying individual contributors with an assigned number. Contributor names provided by candidates can vary. More thorough cleaning is likely to reveal more contributions. The candidate filings available from the Ohio Secretary of State for 2002 include contributions from January-October 16 for statewide candidates and political party committees. The last contribution report provided information through October 16, 2002. Candidates who are term-limited out and those who are not up for re-election (half of the Ohio Senate) are not required to report contributions until the annual filing in January.

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The Citizens Policy Center is the non-profit, research and education affiliate of Ohio Citizen Action. The Center produces studies on money and politics and toxins in the environment.

For questions or comments about the study, contact Catherine Turcer, 3400 N. High St. #430, Columbus, Ohio 43202. (614)263-4111, cturcer@ohiocitizen.org.

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