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exposing the dark side of gambling

## **Is casino money influencing the legislative process in our state government?**

*Elected officials are urged to take a public pledge.*

**ST. LOUIS (8/9/07)** – Casino Watch research has recently uncovered an alarming trend...many Republican and Democratic candidates, elected officials, and legislative committees have been the recipients of tens of thousands of dollars from gambling special interests. We believe that this amount of special interest influence in our state is inappropriate.

Since these contributions could improperly influence legislation, we have recently sent a package to every elected member of the Missouri General Assembly which details the financial contributions casinos made in the last election cycle and urges them to sign a pledge to respectfully return all future campaign contributions from any contributor who represents gambling special interests.

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: 2004-mid-2007**

Democratic House Candidates	\$74,350
Democratic Senate Candidates	\$29,850
Democratic Committees	\$445,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$549,400</b>

Republican House Candidates	\$63,425
Democratic Senate Candidates	\$49,100
Republican Committees	\$870,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$983,475</b>

**Grand Total**                      **\$1,532,875**

*(For a copy of the entire campaign contribution packet including the Casino Watch pledge, which was sent to every member of the Missouri General Assembly, please contact our office or visit [www.casinowatch.org](http://www.casinowatch.org) and click the link entitled "Is casino money improperly influencing the legislative process in Missouri government?")*

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**Casino Watch** is the only Missouri watchdog organization solely dedicated to exposing the dark side of gambling. For more information please visit [www.casinowatch.org](http://www.casinowatch.org) .

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