Keeping PA Casinos Competitive, SugarHouse Casino March 18, 2015

Testifiers:

Wendy Hamilton, General Manager, SugarHouse Casino

Key Points:

- While PA had a competitive advantage in 2006, every state adjacent to PA now has legalized gambling.
- The Philadelphia market is currently saturated. In order to stay competitive, SugarHouse will be doubling its square footage and adding new non-gaming amenities.
- According to SugarHouse, 12 casinos is the right amount of casinos for PA, and the General Assembly should not increase the amount of licensed establishments.
- SugarHouse supports internet gambling.
 - Data from New Jersey demonstrates that internet gambling does not cannibalize bricks and mortar casino revenues.
 - According to the NJ division of Gaming Enforcement, "Our regulatory system is working... There have been no major infractions or meltdowns or systematic regulatory failures that would make anyone doubt the integrity of operations."
- SugarHouse is opposed to VGTs in bars and restaurants. Data from Illinois demonstrates that the legalization of VGTs directly impacts casino revenues.