

## Argument Against Measure E – Cardroom Gaming

This gambling industry-financed initiative costs each one of us, and our city. Wealthy card club owners win, and we lose.

They may try to justify this money-grab by making exaggerated claims about new tax revenues. Yet in August, the City Manager reported that the city treasury will collect less than \$30,000 in annual tax revenue for every additional card table, 70% less than what the gaming industry claimed. Even worse, *this initiative will also weaken gaming rules, according to the San José Police Department, to “make it very easy for [organized crime] to skim money off the top, which results in potential loss of tax revenue to the city and state.”*

Whatever tax dollars we receive, they won’t compensate us for the additional strain on our overstretched Police Department, which recently analyzed crime data and estimated that *this measure will increase calls for police—for crimes such as robbery, assault, theft, and counterfeiting -- by 60%* at each card club. Yes, people can always gamble on the internet, but multiple studies link the opening of brick-and-mortar casinos to **citywide increases in burglary, robbery, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, and drug use.**

*The gaming industry won’t bear those burdens. We will.*

Voters agreed to increase the number of tables in San José two years ago because you were assured that the card clubs would pay a 2% higher tax rate on their revenues as a result.

*This initiative, in contrast, leaves us with no such benefit – only a bill.*

What other bills will the gaming industry leave you with? Consider the \$824,000 cost just to place this measure on the November ballot--instead of opening libraries or repaving streets.

We, community leaders throughout the City of San Jose, urge you to vote “no” on this money-grab by the gaming industry.

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