

July 10, 2006

Dear Member of Congress,

As organizations committed to the effective enforcement of both state and federal laws, we write today urging your support of H.R. 4411, the "Internet Gambling Prohibition and Enforcement Act." This bill has recently been amended in the nature of a substitute providing a comprehensive approach to enforcing current laws against Internet gambling as outlined by Congressman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) and Congressman Jim Leach (R-IA).

Presently, a \$12 billion off-shore gaming industry evades our nation's laws. Our organizations have been committed to seeing that financial institutions and law enforcement officials are granted the tools necessary to detect and deter illegal Internet gambling transactions. Further, we have advocated for an update to the 1961 Wire Act so as to clarify the forms of communications as well as gambling businesses covered under federal law. We believe the amended version of H.R. 4411 achieves these essential goals.

In 1999 the National Gambling Impact Study Commission released its report addressing the social and economic impact associated with gambling. The Commission reported that efforts to prevent underage and pathological gambling were "particularly challenging" due to the high level of anonymity afforded Internet gamblers. The Commission recommended decisive action by Congress in this area, since it is critical to the health and well-being of families across the country.

For ten years Congress has attempted to pass legislation that would enforce current laws against Internet gambling. While there has been previous success in both chambers of Congress, no bill has been presented to the President for his signature. With the broad support of pro-family groups, professional sports leagues and 48 state attorney generals, we strongly believe that now is the time for a signing ceremony at the White House.

To ensure that day comes, we ask for your vote in support of H.R. 4411 as amended and reported to the Committee on Rules. We also ask that you reject any amendments which have historically served to weaken and ultimately defeat the legislation. Now is the time for Congress to pass, and the President to sign into law, the enforcement tools necessary to identify and prevent illegal Internet gambling. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter for America's families.

Sincerely,

Family Research Council

AdvanceUSA

AFA Center for Law & Policy

American Association of Christian Schools

American Family Association

Focus on the Family

American Family Association of Indiana

American Family Association of Pennsylvania

American Values

Alabama Policy Council

Called2Action

Center for Moral Clarity

Christian Civic League of Maine

Citizens for Community Values

Coalition for Marriage and Family

Concerned Women for America

ConservativeHQ.com

Cornerstone Policy Research

Eagle Forum

Family Leader Network

Family Protection Lobby

Fidelis

Florida Family Policy Council

Georgia Family Council

Hamilton Strategies

Let Freedom Ring, Inc.

Minnesota Family Council

Network of Politically Active
Christians

North Carolina Family Policy Council

Point of View

Salem Communications

South Dakota Family Policy Council

Tennessee Eagle Forum

The Center for Arizona Policy

The Family Action Council of
Tennessee

The Family Foundation (KY)

Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious
Liberty Commission