

**From:** Luke Travis [<mailto:luke@bristollegal.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 12:53 PM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Exclusion of Elected Officials

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am a recently elected official for the Town of Plainville (Moderator). I recently read in the local paper that MassGaming is considering a rule which would prohibit elected officials in any host municipality from engaging in gaming at the facility in their town. I would like to express my strong opposition to such a rule. While I am not a regular gambler by any means, I resent the implication of such a rule. If I am to understand this rule, I cannot be trusted to exercise my oath as an elected official while enjoying myself from time to time at a casino? I'm sure that there are already laws and rules which sufficiently monitor the behavior of elected officials and Plainridge when it comes to contributions or gratuities if this is the concern being addressed by this proposed rule.

Such a rule is overreaching and seems to smack of a violation of constitutional rights as a citizen. At the very least, if implemented, this rule will cause future nominees for elected office to give pause as to whether they want to give up their freedoms in order to serve in these voluntary positions. To follow your logic for this rule, I would suggest that the ABCC also prohibit elected officials from purchasing alcohol in their towns where licenses are issued by the town. Where does it stop?

Most all of the elected officials in Plainville have had no involvement in the licensing and agreements with Plainridge. I don't see how a park commissioner or a library trustee has any impact on the goings on at Plainridge. I would suggest that state officials have had more involvement in the licensing of Plainridge and so if such a rule is implemented, it should also constrain state officials and elected officials from abutting towns who also benefit from Plainridge.

Again, I am strongly opposed to such a rule and would welcome your comments on this matter.

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