

MISSOURI GAMING COMMISSION

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Media Release

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MGC Releases Annual Report; Money to Education Surpasses Two Billion Dollar Mark

Jefferson City, Missouri - Riverboat Gaming has generated over 2 billion dollars for education and over 253 million dollars to Early Childhood programs since its inception.

Beginning in 1995, general taxes on casino gambling have contributed hundreds of millions of dollars into the foundation formula for schools, also known as the Classroom Trust Fund. These revenues are spent at the discretion of local school districts. In addition, the Gaming Commission has transferred over 30 million dollars a year into the Early Childhood Development, Education and Care Fund. Money for Early Childhood Programs comes from the two dollar admission fee charged per patron at riverboat gambling casinos. Programs benefit pre-kindergarten aged children and are managed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Missouri Gaming Commission Executive Director Gene McNary says "the gaming industry continues to be a substantial source of funding for Missouri education and Early Childhood Programs. School districts across the state, as well as The Missouri Preschool Project, Early

Head Start, and First Steps have all benefited from riverboat gaming taxes."

In addition to these programs, Gaming Commission Funds are also responsible for funding more than half of the Missouri College Guarantee Program. The program is need based, and provides renewable scholarships and a book allowance to students with a demonstrated financial need. Awards average two thousand dollars.

The Missouri Gaming Commission has released its 2006 Annual Report.

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