



## INFORMATION RELEASE

**Contact:**  
**Danny Straessle/Britni Dumas**

**NR 18-263**  
**August 29, 2018**

### **Arkansas Highway Commission Releases Statement Regarding the Proposed Casino Gambling Amendment**

**LITTLE ROCK (8-29)** – A proposed Constitutional amendment regarding casino gambling in Arkansas is currently in the process of obtaining certification that would allow it to appear on the ballot in the November 2018 general election. The proposed amendment would allow additional casinos to be opened in Arkansas.

The Highway Commission has no position on gambling in Arkansas – that is up to the people to decide should the issue be certified for the ballot. However, the Commission believes the citizens need to have a clear understanding of the proposal. Specifically, citizens need to understand that the proposal **does not** direct any of the revenue to be generated from the casinos to our state’s highways, despite what some of the promotional ads are implying.

This proposal is being promoted by a group calling itself Driving Arkansas Forward. They continue to use language and promotional materials that are leading people to believe that the proposed amendment would provide much needed new funding for our state’s highways. **That is simply not the case.** Of the tax revenue estimated to be generated from the casinos, more than half (55%) is being directed to the state’s General Fund. **None is being directed to the state’s highway fund.**

Again, the Highway Commission has no position on gambling in Arkansas. But the citizens who will decide need to make their decision based on facts. The fact is, **the proposed Constitutional amendment regarding casino gambling is not a highway funding proposal.**