

## Paul Maggie

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**From:** Kooiker Sam  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2015 9:06 AM  
**To:** Paul Maggie  
**Subject:** FW: Please VOTE NO on the Expansion of Video Lottery!

To be linked

Sent from my Windows Phone

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**From:** [Dale](#)  
**Sent:** 6/30/2015 8:58 AM  
**To:** [Lewis Chad](#); [Drew Darla](#); [Laurenti Steve](#); [Nordstrom Ritchie](#); [Weifenbach Ron](#)  
**Cc:** [Steve Allender](#); [Mayor's Office Group](#); [Roberts John](#); [Wright Jerry](#); [Scott Amanda](#); [Doyle Charity](#); [Estes Brad](#)  
**Subject:** Please VOTE NO on the Expansion of Video Lottery!

Dear Members of the Legal and Finance Committee,

Thank you for your service to our city as you strive to do what you do in protecting her citizens and nurturing an atmosphere of positive growth in a 'family friendly' environment. My wife and I absolutely love living in Rapid City!

I come to you as Executive Director of the Family Heritage Alliance headquartered here in Rapid City with a branch office in Sioux Falls. We are a Christian conservative public policy organization associated with such national organizations as Focus On The Family, CitizenLink, Family Research Council and the Alliance Defending Freedom. I'm addressing you, via this email, representing a host of Rapid City constituents on a very important issue.

We would encourage you to consider a strong and decisive **NO VOTE** on your upcoming decision on **Agenda Item #15** - the expansion of Video Lottery in our great community.

South Dakota legalized Video Lottery in 1989. We became the first in the Nation to do so. Since then, this gaming has bought a stream of revenue **and** a steady stream of broken lives and societal ills. The success of the gaming industry depends on the addictiveness of the game. Addicts equal revenue. The National Council on Problem Gambling estimates that there are within South Dakota: 12,000 Adult Problem Gamblers and 6,000 Adult Pathological Gamblers for a total of 18,000 Adult Gambling Addictions and those numbers are growing.

These addicts are not some **faceless collateral damage** to the industry - **NO** - they are our family members, friends, employers, employees and acquaintances. Why would our City Council Members even consider ushering in a greater number of VLT's (Video Lottery Terminals) when we know full well that they are uniquely addictive and their addictions happen quickly? No wonder the South Dakota Keystone Treatment Center in Canton has termed Video Lottery the 'Crack Cocaine of the Gaming Industry'.

Committee Members, I would respectfully submit that our city can do better in securing our needed revenues with honest industry rather than on the backs of the most vulnerable in our community through their Video Lottery addictions.

Thank you for your time and I shall look forward to seeing you this Wednesday at the Legal & Finance Committee Meeting.

Standing for Faith, Family and Freedom,

- Dale

Dale Bartscher, Executive Director

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