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LETTER: Casino opposition is outrageous

by Advance Newspapers
Monday January 28, 2008, 10:08 AM

Todd Boorsma indicated in the Penasee Globe ("Boorsma responds to criticism," Jan. 21, 2008) that he does oppose a future casino in Muskegon but indicated the Gun Lake situation is at a level that requires more attention. Well, Boorsma was involved from day one with the Gun Lake Tribe attending the initial meeting that was held at the Wayland High School in November 2000 where racial slurs occurred as reported by the Penasee Globe.

I personally attended a meeting in Byron Center on Sept. 24, 2007 where I heard Jim Stringham (who is part of MichGo with Todd Boorsma) tell the audience that their group has been chasing Sid Smith (an investor in the Gun Lake Casino) for seven years. He bragged that they had "chased him out of Dorr." This group, along with 23 is Enough, has been working very hard to stop the Gun Lake Casino. This is outrageous!

Boorsma also indicated in the Jan. 21 article that the lottery is legal and already established in Michigan. I would ask that he show exactly how he protested against Keno as this is rather new to the State. Any effort to stop this? Well, 11 other federally recognized tribes in Michigan have legal and already established casinos in Michigan. I maintain that he is only discriminating against this one casino. This is outrageous!

MichGo has been propped up by wealthy millionaires from Grand Rapids to stop the Gun Lake Tribe from becoming self-sufficient. They are stopping a legal casino from creating tremendous economic development for Allegan County and they are stopping people from securing good paying jobs. This is outrageous!

Judith A. Bott,
FOGLI Council Member,
Byron Center

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