

CALCAP, ANEF & CCAGE

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SACRAMENTO SHAKEN AND STIRRED

On December 13, 2006, a tremor was felt in the political world of Sacramento. On that day, the **Board of Equalization** took the first step in a very long journey toward properly taxing Alcopops, sweet-flavored alcohol drinks aimed primarily at underage girls.

After more than an hour of testimony on December 12, at times with very antagonistic questions from a Board Member regarding our position, a vote was taken on the resolution to begin the process of taxing alcopops as distilled spirits. A vote of two to two, with one member absent for the vote, meant that the resolution did not pass.

Some might have thought that this battle was over, especially those in the alcohol industry. But, we were not finished. Through the efforts of our Legislative



Advocate, Fred Jones, and the publicity in the statewide papers, the issue was re-considered the next day, and the victory was ours! Finally, the long process toward properly taxing alcopops will begin.

Needless to say, this sent many of the Lobbyists for the Alcohol industry scurrying through the halls of the capitol wondering what to do next. The action of the Board of Equalization has shaken and stirred the alcohol industry, and we will be ready for their renewed efforts.

BOOZE DOES NOT TAKE A HOLIDAY

In a series of reports during the Christmas and New Year Holidays, we were reminded again of the damage and dangers of alcohol. We learned that Miss U.S.A almost lost her crown, a number of college students, including the daughter of California's new Lieutenant Governor, nearly lost their lives, and a California Highway patrolman was killed by a drunk driver. These reports, along

with almost daily news about various professional sportsmen arrested for drunk driving, celebrities acknowledging continuing problems with alcohol, and too many stories relating alcohol to violence, provide vivid and tragic reminders that Booze never takes a holiday; and so, in our battle against the alcohol industry, neither can we.

Now you Know!

A Study by the Center for Substance Abuse Research shows that teens who have at least five dinners a week with their families are less likely to use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, and those who do drink are less likely to get drunk.

Maybe the old "Father Knows Best" really did.

Have a family dinner today.

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2007 has begun, and last year's future is upon us.

FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE

The New year has begun, and that means that the future is upon us. The State Assembly Members and State Senators have returned to Sacramento, and are beginning the process of introducing the many bills that will be considered this year.

Although no specific bills concerned with alcohol or gambling have been officially introduced yet (the deadline is the end of March) indications are that there will be bills contrary to our positions.

We are once more engaged in a battle for the future of California. The alcohol in-

dustry will continue to seek ways to promote their product to more and more people, including our underage population. They will fight to keep youth friendly alcohol products like alcopops cheap and accessible to the youth of our state. This industry seeks to convert our children into their customers by sponsoring family friendly events, such as community and county fairs and festivals.

The future is here! Will you help fight for the future of California, and make it a better place to live and raise our children and grandchildren?

SOBRIETY UNDOES ALCOHOL'S BRAIN DAMAGE

Excerpted from the L.A. Times —

Studies have established that alcoholism and regular, heavy drinking, can cause significant loss of short-term memory skills and of higher-order functions such as reasoning, planning and prioritizing. There is also severe impairment in a drinkers visual-spatial skills. However, preliminary results from several new studies indicate that it may be possible to reverse this damage.

The means to this type of recovery and regeneration is abstinence. One study at Stanford University found that middle-aged alcoholics who had been abstinent for six months regained virtually all lost function on measures of abstraction, attention, memory, reaction time and verbal skills. The damage to their visual-spatial skills was not so easily undone. Studies also show that the length of a person's dependence is a key factor in brain recovery.

WITH SOBRIETY,
THE BRAIN CAN
BEGIN TO
RESTORE SOME
LOST FUNCTION.



David and his "Smooth Stones" take down Goliath.

FIVE SMOOTH STONES

"Five smooth stones to use against Goliath" was a message that accompanied a donation from one of our contributors. Another message that we received along with a donation stated "In honor of my father and grandchildren."

We often receive notes from our supporters that help us better understand the important task that is at hand. Sometimes we are reminded that we truly are in a "David

and Goliath" sized battle against the alcohol and gambling industries, and at other times we realize that by honoring our past and history, we are honoring and safeguarding the future of our children and grandchildren.

I hope that as this year unfolds, you will continue to help us gather "five smooth stones" and help make a difference in the future of California.

TRIBAL COMPACTS

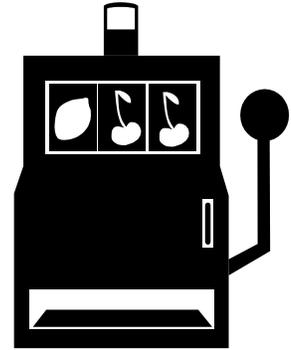
Last August, a number of tribes received new compacts (agreements) that would have increased the number of slot machines in California by 50%. Fortunately, after hearing testimony from labor unions, nearby communities and us, these were not ratified by the State Legislature. However, these compacts will be re-introduced in 2007, and the tribes will

have many friends in Sacramento supporting their efforts to expand gambling.

In 2006, the tribal casinos' strategy changed from supporting propositions to trying to influence elections. In the past election, tribe-established Political Action Committees contributed more than \$10 million to State Senators, Assembly Members and those seeking statewide

office. They are also negotiating with the unions. Consequently, when this issue returns, we may be standing alone.

Currently, California has 56 tribal casinos generating more than \$7 billion in revenue. We agree with the voters, enough is enough, and we will continue to resist gambling expansion in California every chance we get.



Tribes hope to increase number of slot machines by 50%.

LOTTERY NEWS

Integrity and accountability are two words that do not seem to be in the vocabulary of the officials of the California State Lottery Commission. Following our lawsuit, which exposed the arrogant decision making of the commission, Lottery officials continue the practice of making major decisions without Law-

maker's knowledge, formal public comment period, or even a vote of the whole commission.

The latest example of this type of decision making involves the controversial low-profile take over of our Lotto contractor. Two companies, which are indirectly controlled by two

Italian families, now control our lottery. Further, these two companies have been involved in self-described financial scandals around the world.

It is time for the Legislature to exert its authority over the Lottery, before it is too late.

CALIFORNIA
STATE LOTTERY
NOW
INDIRECTLY
CONTROLLED BY
TWO ITALIAN
FAMILIES

ON-LINE SHOPPERS

Do you ever shop on-line at Amazon, e-Bay, QVC, Sears, Dell, Macy's, Home Depot, or Staples? These merchants, along with 500 more are ready to make a donation to the California Council on Alcohol Problems.

If you register at the site

www.iGive.com, and select the "California Council on Alcohol Problems" to receive your contribution, then every time you use one of the participating merchants, that company will make a donation to our organization.

If you would like to help

CalCAP as you shop, contact "iGive", and follow the simple instructions to register.

Although, we have only been connected to "iGive" for a month, \$50 dollars has already been raised for CalCAP.



Your computer can help raise money for CalCAP



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE

OUR TASK AND MISSION

The CalCAP family, which includes the California Council on Alcohol Problems, the Alcohol-Narcotic Education Foundation and the California Coalition Against Gambling Expansion, is a statewide, faith based organization that seeks to prevent the moral, economic and social problems caused by alcohol and gambling. This is done through research, education, advocacy and lobbying.

At CalCAP, we are anticipating an exciting, challenging and productive 2007. We are eager to again address the legislature regarding the problems of alcohol and gambling. We are excited about the prospect of preaching and teaching in churches around the state. We await the possibilities!

SOMETHING NEW

A new year seems the right time to try something new and something different. It is the time to not only reflect upon the past, but to also anticipate and prepare for the future. Many people make resolutions to change, seeking to improve their lives and the lives of those around them. Some of these changes are major, while others are less monumental. You have already noticed one of our small changes. Our Newsletter has a new look. Although it is different, we hope that you will find it informative, interesting and easier to read. Let us know what you think.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Friends,

Sometimes I wonder when the people and Legislature of California will awaken to the clear and present dangers caused by alcohol and gambling. When will we stop allowing those industries to set the agenda, frame the debate and determine what is best for California?

In Sacramento, the tragic deaths of two children related to a faulty smoke detector have prompted the city to schedule inspections of more than 200,000 residences in 2007. However, more than 100,000 deaths, more than one million crimes and acts of violence, and billions of dollars in costs, all alcohol related, do not generate a response from our state leaders. And though research indicates that communities with casinos, as well as cities nearby, have increased rates of crime, divorce, bankruptcies and suicides, the government seems to care only about projected revenues, not the costs to individuals, families, and society.

When it comes to alcohol and gambling, someone needs to put the families of California first. Thanks to you, we are!

James Butler,
Executive Director



More than 100,000 deaths, more than one million crimes and acts of violence, and more than one billion dollars in costs to the state should make a difference.