

**AB 1782 – Gambling, Multi-state lottery
Talking Points**

- 1. AB 1782 authorizes the California lottery commission to enter into a multi-state lottery agreement.**
- 2. The vices of gambling far outweigh any virtues, such as funding for schools or other public benefit. Gambling can be addictive for many people, causing financial and emotional harm to their families.**
- 3. Lotteries pickpocket the poor. A report by the National Gambling Impact Study Commission cited that gamblers who had incomes under \$10,000 wagered almost three times as much as than those earning \$50,000. Those who play the lottery the most can least afford to do so.**
- 4. According to *World* magazine, “State lotteries disproportionately target the poor. They beef up lottery promotions near the beginning of the month (when welfare recipients typically receive checks); build heavy concentrations of lottery outlets in poor neighborhoods; and create lottery ads that target the poor with false promises of ‘hitting it big.’” (“What’s the big deal?” 6/19/99)**
- 5. Gambling must be reduced, not expanded. Consider the economic waste. More than 1 billion lottery tickets were sold in California in 2004. As cited in *World* magazine, “In 2001, Americans wagered \$57 billion on lotteries, \$18 billion on horses and dogs, \$592 billion on casinos, and \$150 billion on other gambling. This is a blot on American life. Break it down to individuals. Massachusetts sells more than \$500 worth of lottery tickets each year for every man, woman, and child.” (“Wages from sin” *World* 1/11/03)**