



[Home](#) > [Newsroom](#) > [Press Releases](#) > 2010 > In Case You Missed It: Press of Atlantic City - "The recommendations of Gov. Chris Christie's task force on gambling are bold and comprehensive."

In Case You Missed It: Press of Atlantic City - "The recommendations of Gov. Chris Christie's task force on gambling are bold and comprehensive."

Thursday, July 22, 2010 • Tags: [Task Forces](#)

Christie's Commitment to Atlantic City is Welcome News

Editorial

Press of Atlantic City

Thursday, July 22, 2010 12:01 am

The recommendations of Gov. Chris Christie's task force on gambling are bold and comprehensive. They represent sensible policy on a statewide level. And for Atlantic City, they affirm a promise that Christie made prior to the election - that the state's focus should be on Atlantic City reaching its full potential before gambling is even considered in any other part of the state.

If the plan is adopted and is successful, it could jump-start investment in the resort and prove wrong the naysayers who prematurely wrote Atlantic City's obituary.

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For Atlantic City, the key recommendation is to create a "safe and clean" tourism zone within the city that will be under the control of a new state authority that reports directly to the governor.

...

This plan, so long under wraps, now needs a full public debate. Statehouse Democrats have planned a gaming summit next month, where the plan will undoubtedly get a full airing. We hope that summit does not devolve into a platform for partisan grandstanding. This plan is too important to Atlantic City, to the state and to both sides of the political aisle.

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Atlantic City is not Las Vegas. Casinos did not spring up from tumbleweeds and desert. There were people here - and the residents of Atlantic City, along with their elected officials, must be considered and respected in this effort.

They, as well as the casino industry, should benefit from this plan and from the economic boost and the jobs that it will, hopefully, create.

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