

2 January, 1997

Editor
Wisconsin State Journal
P.O. Box 8058
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Editor:

Your December 29th editorial on Wisconsin's gamble with the lottery sums up the big picture nicely. However, "Splitting the kitty with out-of-state taxpayers who own property in Wisconsin means the average lottery credit will drop to \$40 or \$50 a year," could be a bit deceiving.

Lest your readers misinterpret the data, less than 10% of the total proceeds of the lottery would go to part-time residents. The redistribution of the lottery funds benefits over a million Wisconsin businesses, and Wisconsin residents who own more than one property in the state -- both categories previously denied participation in the distribution.

Let's not try to shift the blame from sloppy legislation to the part-time residents who are not here to defend themselves. Bringing in over \$3 billion in discretionary spending, property and sales taxes annually, part-time residents pay more than their fair-share for the services they receive. Instead, let's get our representatives to tell us the real value of the tax relief measures they propose --it always was about \$50 a year but we're just finding it out now.

N.A. Kaufmann, Exec. Dir.
Wisconsin Out-of-State Land Owners
Association, Madison