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Economy slows gaming in Mississippi

LARAYE BROWN • LARAYE.BROWN@CLARIONLEDGER.COM • MAY 18, 2009

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Jobs, spending and tax revenues in the state's gaming industry all dipped during 2008, putting the state's casino business in line with others across the country.

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Released today, the American Gaming Association's State of the States report showed 2008 gaming revenue dipped 4.7 percent nationally.

In Mississippi, consumer spending on revenue dipped 5.9 percent to \$2.721 billion. Tax revenue was down 6.7 percent in the state to \$326.9 million.

Frank Fahrenkopf Jr., AGA's president and CEO, said it's too early in the year to predict how 2009 might fare.

"It's going to be the economy coming back that's going to be key," Fahrenkopf said.

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RabidRebelBK wrote:

Wife and I went to BeauRivage for 3 days and two nights on a coupon last week. We also had 400 in Free Play that we used over the 3 days. Got Comps and used coupons to eat free.