

COLUMBUS, Ohio

The Republican president of the Ohio Senate says the incoming GOP governor should appoint his own people to a new state panel that will regulate Ohio's casinos.

Sen. Bill Harris on Wednesday said the Senate would vote on lame duck Democratic Gov. Ted

Strickland's appointments to the casino commission before the end of the session. But, he says, that's only if the members don't decide to resign.

He stopped short of saying the seven appointees would be rejected, though he said that would be his preference.

Harris says given the commission's importance, Gov.-elect John Kasich should be able to choose the members on the bipartisan panel.

Voter-approved casinos are planned in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Toledo.

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