

HB 1448

2-9-21 10:30am

House Judiciary Committee

Good morning Chairman Klemin and members of the House Judiciary committee. My name is Mike Motschenbacher and I'm testifying on behalf of the ND Gaming Alliance. We are kindly asking for a DO NOT PASS recommendation on HB 1448.

Although we are in favor of online sports betting, we are opposed to it being exclusive to federally recognized Indian tribes. Our organization believes that all forms of charitable gaming in the State of North Dakota should be available to all citizens, business owners, and charities and not limited to one facet of the population.

In speaking to several of our members, only a small portion of them even thought that they may get involved in the sports betting business, but all of them agreed that it may be something they are interested in sometime in the future. They all agreed they want to keep the door open for this possibility down the road even if they don't have an immediate interest. It is highly unlikely that by allowing all charities in the state of ND to have this ability that this will greatly affect the current sports betting that the federally recognized Indian tribes currently have the ability to do.

We urge you to provide all citizens of North Dakota the same abilities that the tribes have, and ask for a DO NOT PASS recommendation on HB 1448. Thank you for your consideration and certainly feel free to contact me with any questions.

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