



Benefiting North Dakota Communities through Charitable Gaming

Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1114 – proposed amendment

Chairman Klemin and Members of the Committee:

I'm Scott Meske, representing the North Dakota Gaming Alliance and on behalf of the 152 Members of the NDGA, we offer our support for House Bill 1114 and respectfully offer a one word amendment.

In section 2. Paragraph a, the NDGA requests the amount of charitable gaming funds allocated to the gambling disorder fund increase from ten thousand per quarter to eighty thousand per quarter, bringing the total contribution to \$320,000 per year.

2. Excluding moneys in the charitable gaming operating fund appropriated by the legislative assembly for administrative and operating costs associated with charitable gaming, the attorney general shall allocate remaining moneys in the charitable gaming operating fund on a quarterly basis as follows:

a. ~~Ten~~ Eighty thousand dollars to the gambling disorder prevention and treatment fund. Moneys in the charitable gaming operating fund are appropriated on a continuing basis to the attorney general for the purpose provided in this subdivision.

We do believe it is important the State's gambling disorder fund is properly structured, and appropriately funded. Any funds remaining after funding both the administrative needs of the gaming office, and the gambling disorder program, should be transferred to the State's General Fund.

Thank you



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To assist with the funding of the programs, we would also request an amendment be added to the bill to *increase* the amount that is designated towards gambling disorder prevention from it's current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter, or an eight-fold increase. Combined with proceeds from the North Dakota Lottery, and the contributions from the Tribal Gaming Compact, the total amount available for the gambling addiction and treatment program would total about \$790,000 each year.

We believe there is more than enough revenue from gaming-generated taxes and contributions to support a comprehensive gaming addiction and treatment program in North Dakota, run by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The North Dakota Gaming Alliance urges a DO PASS on SB 2077 with the proposed modifications as we have outlined.