

Testimony in Support of HB 1615
House Judiciary Committee
Submitted by Kraig Rygg
January 29th, 2025

Chairman Klemin & Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in favor of HB 1615, addressing the Charitable Gaming Site Authorization process.

I have been involved with ownership of liquor establishments and worked with charitable gaming for nearly 30 years. My family owned and operated a bar in the Grand Forks area for many years, and now I am the proprietor of two GF liquor establishments.

My support of HB1615 stems from the need to clean-up the language and clarify the process to obtain a gaming site authorization. A business owner has the knowledge and expertise to determine what is best for his business and I have concerns with the possibility of local municipalities dictating terms of my business dealings and contractual agreements.

As a bar owner, I make my decision whom to contract with for gaming services based on many things including; the reputation and reliability of the organization, game types offered, and the ability of the organization to adapt to customer and business needs of the site. I reserve the right to determine who can effectively work in partner with my business, and within the vision of my business model. HB1615 will clarify wording to ensure that as a business owner I am able to continue to make these decisions without the interference of local government.

Thank you for your consideration of a **Do Pass** on HB 1615.

Kraig Rygg
The Office – Pub & Grub & Charlies Public House
701.740.1898