



## **Benefiting North Dakota Communities through Charitable Gaming**

**March 5, 2025**

### **Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1253**

Madame Chair Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I'm Scott Meske, representing the North Dakota Gaming Alliance and on behalf of the Members of the NDGA, we stand in support of House Bill 1253. ND Gaming Alliance represents all facets of the charitable gaming industry. Veteran and Fraternal Organizations, Charities, Hospitality, Manufacturers, and Distributors.

This bill is similar in its intent to 2023 Session Bill SB 2271. We opposed that bill last session for a variety of reasons. Rep. Grueneich's bill is an improvement. The Attorney General's Office is the regulator for charitable gaming in North Dakota. Currently, his office only has one recourse in the case of a gaming site found in violation state law, and that is to pull the site license for a year. HB 1253 gives the AG's office the authority and flexibility to impose fines if warranted, when gaming sites do not follow the rules outlined by this body.

Charitable gaming has provided significant benefits to our communities across the State. It's imperative the industry, charities and sites alike, operate transparently and within the rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to be with you this morning, and we urge a DO PASS on House Bill 1253. I stand for any questions you may have.