SB 2315

Senate Finance & Taxation Committee Submitted by Don Santer, CGAND February 2nd, 2021

Chairperson Bell and Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding the charitable gaming industry of North Dakota. I am here in opposition of Senate Bill 2315.

My name is Don Santer, I represent the Charitable Gaming Association of North Dakota (CGAND), a trade association for charities operating gaming throughout ND. I also represent the North Dakota Association for the Disabled (NDAD). NDAD is a North Dakota charity that for over 45 years has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons with disabilities. NDAD pays for most of its services with charitable gaming funds.

As you may remember, I testified this morning in opposition to **Senate Bill 2314**, a bill that would create an exception to allow tribal operated online gaming and sports betting anywhere in the state. **Senate Bill 2315** removes the section of the law that prohibits tribal gaming outside of Tribal lands. This would allow tribal owned casinos to be built anywhere in the state of North Dakota along with online gaming and online sports betting; essentially wiping out the charitable gaming industry in North Dakota. Our constitution safeguards charitable gaming in the state of North Dakota; the voters decided and reserved gaming for the charities. That is the reason Tribal gaming compacts have "Geographic Scope".

For the past 40 years North Dakota has developed a responsible and highly regulated system for charitable gaming to benefit charitable missions that serve your local communities. We ask you to consider a **Do Not Pass** recommendation on SB 2315.

Thank you, Chairperson Bell and members of the committee, for your time and thoughtful consideration I am happy to answer any additional questions you may have.

Respectfully, Don Santer, NDAD CGAND Vice President