

House Finance and Tax Committee

House Bill 1524

February 1, 2023

Testimony submitted by Charitable Gaming Association of ND
Brian Barrett

Chairman Headland and members of the House Finance and Tax Committee, the Charitable Gaming Association of ND is in opposition to HB 1524.

This bill changes the E-Pull Tab machine payout percentage to 82%. Currently E-Tab machines pay out at 90%. This simply means 90% of all money put into the machine is paid in prizes. If this payout percentage is changed to 82%, it will destroy the ND E-Tab industry and all the money they raise for charities. By changing this percentage, communities will no longer see benefits of charitable gaming such as:

**Development Homes, which is the 8th largest employer in ND, using charitable dollars to help fund a living center of autistic individuals.*

**ND Association for the Disabled funded over 2,000 medical trips along with purchasing hundreds of pieces of medical equipment and supplies.*

Last biennium, charitable gaming generated \$73 million dollars that went toward charitable purposes in ND. The State of ND received \$43 million in tax revenue.

If the percentage is changed from 90% to 82%, benefits from charitable gaming will cease because players will quickly conclude that their chances of winning are minimal. Play on these machines will diminish along with charitable contributions to ND communities.

Thank you for your consideration of a **Do Not Pass** recommendation on HB 1524.