

Re: HB 1152

From: Jeff Burns

Nodak Sportsmen's Club

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman and Senators,

My name is Jeff Burns and I am the gaming manager for Nodak Sportsmen's Club. I have been in the gaming industry in North Dakota for 20 years and currently the gaming manager for a charity that has been in business for 30 years in our state.

I am not opposed to allowing groups to operate "Poker Runs" without a permit but nowhere is there a definition of what a "Poker Run" is. Would this bill allow a group or organization to be able to open linked Poker rooms and call it a "Poker Run" because it is being played in multiple locations? Would Video Poker be allowed if the machines are linked to multiple locations? Also, the way the bill is written a group or organization operating a "Poker Run" could also conduct other gaming activities and these activities are not regulated by the Attorney General's Gaming Division.

This bill needs the following amendments to make sure it isn't abused:

1. Definition of a "Poker Run".
2. Change the language of: **12.1-28-02. Gambling - Related offenses - Classification of Exception offenses.** #2. That reads: **The offenses under this section do not apply to a person who aids, organizes, or participates in a ride to conduct a poker run.** This language gives the group or organization the ability to conduct any type of gaming with no regulation and no consequences.

In the bills current version I ask for your consideration for a "**Do not pass**" on HB 1152.

Thank you for your time,

Jeff Burns

Gaming Manager

Nodak Sportsmen's Club