

Chairman Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am Kathy Frelich and I have the honor of representing District 15 which encompasses Devils Lake and the area up to the Canadian border.

House Bill 1192 changes the dollar amount allowed for a primary prize that an organization may award. It also increases the total dollar amount for all prizes. This statute only applies to organizations that are recognized as being "public-spirited."

The Primary prize limit is raised from \$8,000 to \$15,000. And the total prize limit is raised from \$40,000 thousand to \$50,000. No other changes are made to this code.

I will admit the need for this change was not on my radar but was brought to me by a constituent of District 9 which neighbors District 15. Her testimony is on-line. When I was asked to bring forward this legislation, I first visited with the Gaming Director at the Attorney General's office and was told that many people have enquired about increasing these amounts, inflation being the major factor. She explained that I may want to contact both the Township Association as well as the Association of Counties to let them know about the Bill proposal and I did follow through with that quite some time ago.

If you look at the on-line testimony, I believe she laid out the need for the increase and how these raffles are used in our area to support good causes. In this case the funds go to support the local rural fire district and the community club in Minnewaukan. Keep in mind the population of Minnewaukan is about 200 people, and it's easy to see how important these funds are to the community.

Thank you, Chairman Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee, for considering this change.

Kathy Frelich
District 15