



**WESTERN**  
DISTRIBUTING

EST. 1992

March 16, 2025

House Judiciary Committee

State Capital

Bismarck, ND 58505

SB 2384 – Recommendation of Do Not Pass

Dear Representative Klemin and Committee Members

Good morning, my name is Joe Hoffert, an owner/partner of Western Distributing Company. Western Distributing Company has been a licensed Distributor working with Charities in North Dakota since 1992. We presently have 21 Full Time employees working around the State of North Dakota, with employees located in Bismarck, Minot, Fargo, Valley City and Minto.

The proposed language stating a Manufacturer may work directly with a licensed organization etc. will be confusing to the North Dakota Charitable Gaming industry. The licensed organization presently works with licensed distributors and this process has worked well for charities, manufacturers and distributors. Everyone presently knows the process to keep the electronic pull tab machines serviced and maintained. Our company is made up of several well-trained and experienced service technicians. We provide preventive monthly cleaning and provide service as needed when a machine with an issue arises. We average around 3700 service calls per year and have a great track record with our charitable accounts.

We, along with the other distributors in the State of North Dakota have made a significant investment in our companies to provide the best services and products to the licensed organizations. We have sales and service people throughout the state along with vehicles and equipment to provide prompt service. If this bill were allowed to pass their livelihoods would be threatened and our investments significantly impacted.


In conclusion, please vote “DO NOT PASS” on SB 2384 to protect North Dakota businesses, jobs and charitable organizations.

Thank You for your time and consideration.


Sincerely,

Joe Hoffert

Western Distributing Company

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