



Benefiting North Dakota Communities through Charitable Gaming

Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2288

January 28, 2025

Madam Chair Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I'm Scott Meske, representing the North Dakota Gaming Alliance and on behalf of the 178 Members of the NDGA, we offer our support for Senate Bill 2288.

SB 2288 would allow veterans organizations that conduct gaming to use 20% of their net proceeds to offset some of their food and beverage costs. As many of you may know, some veterans organizations are really struggling to stay open. These clubs are a staple for our veterans. Rising costs are really making it difficult to continue to operate these facilities. These clubs give our veterans who fought for and served our country a place to get together, enjoy meals and share stories. Our veterans are in need, and this is the least we can do to help them.

Currently, there are 51 veterans' organizations with gaming licenses in North Dakota, but only a few of those still operate clubs. They will still be required to donate the rest to charitable causes, which they have done so greatly over the past many years. Let's show our veterans that we continue to support them by voting yes on SB 2288. There are some people in the room that I believe will be speaking more to the matter, and they can share their individual stories and issues they are facing.

Thank you and with that I would stand for any questions.