



## **Benefiting North Dakota Communities through Charitable Gaming**

### **Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2334**

**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 2334.

SB 2334 corrects an oversight from last session when many of us worked on the definition of "alcohol beverage establishment" for the purposes of charitable gaming. Taprooms, by definition, are in a different part of the Century Code than was referred to by the legislation passed (SB 2304). There are nine (9) taprooms licensed in ND, under NDCC 5-01-21. By any stretch of the common sense definition, taprooms are alcohol beverage establishments.

That said, there is some testimony following me, who can answer directly how including the taproom definition into the gaming code, would not only make sense, and correct an oversight, but also give you a sense of how entrenched these small businesses are an integral part of their respective communities. This is in no way an attempt to expand the definition we crafted last session, but to correct an oversight.

Thank you to Senator Gerhardt, who has two taprooms in his district, for bringing this bill forward.

We respectfully ask for a DO PASS on Senate Bill 2334.