

# **In Opposition to SB 2035**

## **House Education Committee**

Chairman Heinert  
Submitted by Bill Kalanek, CGAND  
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Chairman Heinert & Committee Members,

The Charitable Gaming Association of ND (CGAND) stands in opposition to SB 2035 as written. This bill is an attempt to clarify and restrict charitable gaming operations to specific non-profit organizations, however, has unintended consequences for current charitable gaming operators.

The bill's wording is highly subjective and open to various interpretations as administrations and employees change. It removes amateur sports competition, economic development, and tourism from the definition of "public spirited organization," making them ineligible to conduct charitable gaming. This includes CVBs and valuable rural economic development groups funding local activities.

This bill eliminates the wording "athletic" regarding youth activities and could potentially have a negative impact on local youth sports organizations, solely relying on interpretation.

Furthermore, the bill lacks a grandfather clause for those affected organizations currently operating charitable gaming legally. The bill states, "This Act applies to an eligible organization applying for or renewing a license after the effective date of this Act." However, all gaming organizations apply for licensing every June; there is no actual "renewal."

It is poor policy to allow a bill so loosely worded, as it could lead to multiple interpretations in the future. This bill is deeply flawed and CGAND urges a **Do Not Pass on SB 2035.**