

**To:** Members of the House Committee on Judiciary  
**From:** Senator Sean Cleary, District 35 — Bill Sponsor  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of SCR 4027 – Gaming Amendment

**Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:**

I am here to present SCR 4027 for your favorable consideration. This resolution clarifies that gaming in North Dakota is for charitable and public-spirited purposes—not for political fundraising.

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## **Proposed Change**

### **Prohibit gaming revenues from being used for political purposes.**

- Gaming in North Dakota has expanded significantly, particularly with the introduction of electronic pull-tabs (e-tabs), turning it into a multi-billion-dollar industry.
  - While gaming revenues are currently narrowly tailored to fund political campaigns, we need to be proactive in ensuring does not become widespread.
  - The Attorney General’s Office noted during the interim study that tracking gaming money is already challenging. This lack of transparency is concerning for nonprofit beneficiaries, but it would be even more problematic if political campaigns were allowed to tap into gaming revenues.
  - This amendment makes it clear that no game of chance, lottery, or gaming activity may be used to support, finance, or influence any political campaign, candidate, or organization—with the exception of raffles, which are explicitly exempted.
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## **Why This Matters**

- North Dakotans never envisioned gaming would be used to finance political campaigns.
  - Gaming money is already difficult to trace—adding politics to the equation would make oversight even more challenging.
  - Reinforces public trust by ensuring a clear separation between gaming and politics.
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As with all constitutional measures, passing this resolution would place the amendment on the ballot for voter approval. I respectfully ask for a "Do-Pass" recommendation. I am available to answer any questions the committee may have.

**Sincerely,**  
Senator Sean Cleary  
District 35  
(701) 426-4618