



Brad Farrin
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131st MAINE SENATE

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**Testimony of Senator Brad Farrin
Neither for Nor Against L.D. 1777, An Act to Create Economic Opportunity for Wabanaki
Nations Through Internet Gaming
Before the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee
January 10, 2023**

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs: My name is Brad Farrin and I represent the people of Senate District 3, which includes towns in Kennebec, Somerset and Penobscot counties. I'm here to propose an amendment L.D. 1777, An Act to Create Economic Opportunity for Wabanaki Nations Through Internet Gaming.

Last year, this committee unanimously passed LD 731 which opened up the advance deposit wagering (ADW) market in Maine. As the committee remembers from last session, ADW is the platform for betting on live horse racing. Allowing additional providers in Maine was a goal of this committee, so much so that it added an emergency preamble to make sure rulemaking could start this past fall. LD 731 passed last year, was signed by the Governor, the rulemaking was initiated, and the second public hearing in front of the Gambling Control Board is scheduled for January 16th next week.

Because so much work has been done by this committee, the Legislature, and stakeholders—and because we all want more providers to enter this market—I respectfully ask that this committee add ADW to the list of exemptions in the bill's definition of "internet gaming" in Section 14, page 3, lines 17-19.

Included below is suggested language in red. This committee did good work last session and this language tweak would allow the rulemaking to continue and the market for providers to increase.

6. Internet gaming. "Internet gaming" means a game of skill or chance offered through the Internet in which an individual wagers money or something of monetary value for the opportunity to win money or something of monetary value. "Internet gaming" does not include the sale of pari-mutuel pools authorized under chapter 11 or the operation of fantasy contests as defined in section 1101, subsection 4 or advance deposit wagering authorized under chapter 31, subchapter 7

Thank you for your consideration.