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LD 1838

The Department of Maine Veterans of Foreign Wars generally supports the proposed legislation, as it offers a much-needed revenue stream for Maine Veterans' Homes and promotes the expansion of gaming within the state.

However, we do have one significant concern: the potential for digital sealed tickets to fully replace traditional physical paper tickets. Local vendors currently sell these paper tickets, and the resulting profits remain within the community. We strongly oppose any shift that would redirect those profits to out-of-state entities through digital gaming systems. Furthermore, the proposed profit-sharing structure for digital sealed tickets is not viable for our operations. The margins simply do not support a sustainable business model if we were to transition entirely to digital gaming.

To illustrate, last year we spent \$12,000 on physical paper tickets and an additional \$2,100 on licensing, resulting in approximately \$29,000 in net income. Such profitability would not be achievable under the proposed digital-only model.