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Legislative Testimony  
Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee  
Milton F. Champion III – Executive Director  
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Department of Public Safety  
April 4, 2023, 1:00 pm, Room 202, Cross Building

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder and Distinguished Members of the Committee on Labor and Housing, I am Milton Champion, Executive Director of the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety. I am here today on behalf of the Department of Public Safety to testify “Neither For Nor Against” LD 949 which is an Act to Protect Workers from Employer Surveillance.

Currently by statute Title 8, Chapter 31, §1004-A requires surveillance or optimum security for casino operations through rules established by the Gambling Control Board. Section §1006 makes all surveillance records and information confidential and that rules be adopted to prevent fraud or deception by patrons and/or employees. Surveillance has been a key part of monitoring casinos since the 1970’s replacing cat walks in the ceiling above the casino floor. The catwalks allowed surveillance personnel to look directly down through one way glass, on the activities at the tables and/or slot machines. Because of the large amounts of chips, markers and cash being moved around the facility and in count rooms and vaults, surveillance is a key measure to keep honest people honest.

While not necessarily required by statute, other areas of gambling oversight include surveillance, like “in person” wagering facilities that offer advance deposit wagering or simulcast wagering on horse racing and now with the addition of sports wagering, lounges, or walk-in facilities, are required by rule with the same amount of surveillance.

I thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee today, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.

Respectfully