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Testimony of Rep. Marc Malon

LD 2080, An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State. Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, I am State Representative Marc Malon from the great City of Biddeford, and I am here today to present my bill, LD 2080, "An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State."

Currently, a person in Maine may voluntarily choose to place themselves on a list banning them from partaking in certain forms of legal gambling for a period of time. This self-exclusion list is a useful way to assist individuals who are trying to recover from a harmful gambling habit.

As Maine has expanded legal gaming options to fantasy contests and sports wagering, options for self-exclusion have expanded with them. The problem is these self-exclusion lists reside separately within each classification of gaming license, with different requirements and even terminology listed for each. The need for a universal list is clear: it would help streamline this important service and make it easier for individuals to take advantage of this service and better ensure that they avoid harmful behaviors.

I sponsored this bill on behalf of the Department of Public Safety's Gambling Control Unit. I would expect that they can better answer most questions committee members might have, but I will do my best to answer any questions directed at me.

Thank you, and I hope you will support LD 2080.