



STATE OF MAINE  
Department of Public Safety  
Gambling Control Unit  
87 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine  
04333-0087

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK  
COMMISSIONER

MILTON CHAMPION  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Legislative Testimony  
Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee  
Matthew Motti – Deputy Director  
Gambling Control Unit  
Department of Public Safety  
January 22, 2024, 10:15 am, Room 437, State House

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and Distinguished Members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, I am Matthew Motti, Deputy 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 "In Favor of" LD 2108 which is "An Act to Amend Maine's Charitable Organization Gaming Laws". And I thank Senator Timberlake for sponsoring this important measure.

This bill allows the Gambling Control Unit, within the Department of Public Safety, to impose a fine not to exceed \$100 per violation on a beano or games of chance licensee, registrant or their agents and employees that violate the laws or rules governing beano or games of chance, subject to an appeal and hearing before the Commissioner of Public Safety. The bill also provides resolution of this fine via execution of a consent agreement. Currently the law allows for an eligible organization that fails to comply commits a civil violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000. That process is time consuming and creates extra expenses for the licensee or registrant to absorb. It is the Units position to attempt to first give organizations the ability to come into compliance before a fine would be issued.

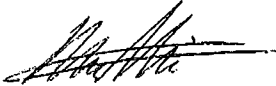
The bill removes the restriction that no more than one registrant may operate a game of chance at a time on the same premises and grants authority to the agricultural society hosting the annual event or fair to determine the number of registrants permitted to operate a game of chance at that location.

The bill also allows bona fide nonprofit organizations to operate a registered game of chance for the duration of an event or annual fair held no more than four times a year.

This removes the 4 day duration cap for event that is currently in place because most fairs are a week long.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. M. M.", written over a horizontal line.