



Chair Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Committee on Veterans Legal Affairs, thank you for your time today. My name is Rebecca London, a Senior Government Affairs Manager at DraftKings, and I am here today to testify on LD 33, An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Fantasy Contests. I am a born and raised Mainer, and I currently live in Cumberland, Maine.

DraftKings Inc. is a digital sports entertainment and gaming company with products that range across daily fantasy, regulated gaming, and digital media. Headquartered in Boston and launched in 2012, DraftKings' daily fantasy sports product is available in 44 states and certain Canadian provinces.

Across the country millions of people participate in some kind of fantasy sports. These fans enjoy the opportunity to compete with their friends, family, and other sports fans in a game that tests their skill and knowledge. It is with this recognition, that we support the sponsor and the Department's efforts to maintain the integrity of contests and delineate between the types of games and contests overseen by the Department. DraftKings supports codifying the intention of the original language that paid fantasy contests reflect the "relative knowledge and skill of the contestants," a term we believe means there are two or more participants competing in a game of skill. 8 MRS 33-1101-4

For this reason, we respectfully suggest the committee amend the proposed language to "two or more fantasy contestants pay an entry fee to participate." This acknowledges the contest is intended to be played between two or more participants, where the operator may not serve as a participant.

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §1101, sub-§4, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 303, §2, is amended to read:

A. ~~One~~ SixTwo or more fantasy contestants pay an entry fee to participate;

Adoption of this language is consistent with language in other jurisdictions. If adopted as currently drafted, Maine would be the only state to not allow head-to-head style fantasy contests between two fantasy participants.

Allowing two or more contestants to compete allows head-to-head style contests amongst family, friends, and other sports fans. Head-to-head fantasy competitions are a form of fantasy competitions in which two participants compete directly against each other. The contests otherwise operate the same as traditional fantasy competitions.

Participants build virtual teams by selecting athletes from a pool of available players within specific contest constraints (e.g., salary caps) - as fixed variables determined by the fantasy competition operator. Contest outcomes are determined by statistics generated by the athletes selected by each participant and reflect the relative skill of the participants. Winners are awarded monetary or other prizes. While head-to-head fantasy competitions involve only two participants, they otherwise function like other fantasy competitions offered by licensed fantasy competition operators in Maine.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill and our proposed amendment. I would be happy to answer questions.