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*Testimony of Representative Michael Brennan presenting*

## **LD 811, An Act to Require a Municipal Public Hearing and Vote Before a Sports Wagering Facility May Be Established**

*before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs*

Good morning, Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. My name is Michael Brennan, and I represent House District 115, which includes a portion of Portland.

I want to thank my House colleague for reading this testimony and presenting LD 811 on my behalf. I apologize that I cannot be with you all in person today.

This bill allows municipalities to approve sports wagering licenses for physical sports wagering facilities before the director of the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety may issue the license.

Further, the municipal officers are required to hold a public hearing for the consideration of the request to conduct sports wagering at a physical location. For unincorporated or unorganized territories, the applicant must receive approval from the county commissioners.

I proposed this bill to ensure that our local communities have a say in whether or not to open new sports wagering facilities in their towns and cities. In the last year, the first online gaming facility opened in Portland. The owners were able to open the facility without any local authorization. I want to make sure our municipalities are able to give their input if ever a facility is proposed in their communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.