

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002 (207) 287-1440 MAINE RELAY 711

James Lee White 306 Wharff Road Guilford, ME 04443 James.White@legislature.maine.gov Cell: (207) 564-7308

LD 863 "An Act to Exempt Internet Raffles Conducted by Certain Organizations with Prizes of \$2500 or Less from Registration and Licensing Requirements."

Good afternoon Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and my esteemed colleagues on the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share this amendment with you, I hope that you can all join with me in making the process a little easier on the non profit organizations around the state. I have never been an expert on the gambling laws, one thing I have learned from researching this bill is that this is an area that is very difficult to enforce and quite commonly gets violated out of the confusion that having a raffle online for under \$2500 is no different than having a raffle in person. What I found is many organizations like granges, veterans groups, boosters, fire depts., and the like have historically held raffles to raise money and because we all live on social media eventually, most of these organizations get the idea to move a raffle online. Currently raffling off an item that cost less than \$2500 in person is no problem for one of these organizations, there is an exemption for that, however, by simply moving that quilt from an in person raffle to an online raffle requires a tremendous amount of time and money for the organization to obtain the proper permitting. All this bill does is bring over the exemptions from an in person raffle

for a non profit to online raffles.

District 30 Abbot, Beaver Cove, Bowerbank, Cambridge, Greenville, Greenville Junction, Guilford, Monson, Parkman, Sangerville, Sebec, Shirley, Wellington and Willimantic, Plantations of; Kingsbury Plantation and Brighton Plantation, the unorganized territories of; Barnard Township, Elliottsville Township, Big Moose Township, Bowdoin College Grant East Township, Chesuncook Township, Cove Point Township, Days Academy Grant Township, Frenchtown Township, Harfords Point Township, Kineo Township, Lily Bay Township, Moosehead Junction Township, Northeast Carry Township, Shawtown Township, Sugar Island Township, Williamsburg Township, Blanchard, Northeast Piscataquis and Northwest Piscataquis