



Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Lisa Keim. I serve as an Oxford County Commissioner, and I also had the honor of representing Oxford County in the Maine Senate. Thank you for the opportunity to provide **testimony in opposition to LD 1902**, An Act to Support Nonprofit Organizations by Authorizing the Operation of Electronic Lucky Seven Devices and Similar Sealed Ticket Games.

My primary objection to this bill is straightforward and rooted in principle. As someone who is deeply committed to the wellbeing of this state and our communities, and to systems that foster human flourishing, I am fundamentally opposed to any expansion of gambling. Gambling is addictive and often destructive of people's lives. There are surely better, more constructive, and life-affirming ways for non-profits to fund their work.

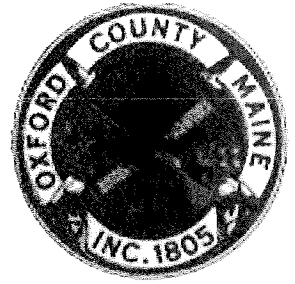
I do also, however, have unique opposition to this bill in my role as Oxford County Commissioner, where my focus is on one central responsibility: protecting the financial stability of Oxford County while providing essential services to the people who rely on us. Every decision we make at the county must be grounded in fiscal responsibility, safeguarding the taxpayers who fund our operations.

Oxford County is home to the Oxford Casino, which provides a substantial and reliable source of revenue that significantly benefits our county budget. In 2025, Oxford County received \$856,000 from slot machine revenue and \$141,000 from table games revenue. These amounts have been consistent year after year, and they directly support public safety, emergency management, and the county jail. The revenue from the casino has a monumental impact on Oxford County taxpayers, helping to keep property taxes stable, predictable, and as low as possible.

LD 1902 puts this stability at risk.

The bill would allow electronic lucky seven devices — machines that operate very much like small slot machines — to be placed in locations across the state. Each location could have up to 10 machines, what would essentially be mini-casinos.

Lisa Keim
Oxford County Commissioner, District 2
Dixfield, ME



From a county government perspective, this matters. When gambling dollars are spread across dozens or hundreds of new locations, they don't increase — they shift. They move away from the Oxford Casino, and with them goes the revenue that supports county services and helps keep taxes down. With LD 1902, counties and municipalities will receive no share of the revenue from these new machines, even though we will inevitably bear the downstream impacts: more calls for service, more enforcement needs, and more strain on local resources.

While I did not vote in favor of a casino, I respect that an agreement between state and private business was made, and should be honored. However, what should also be honored is the taxpayer's realistic expectation of financial compensation as an offset to the societal costs.

Oxford County has taken on the responsibilities that come with hosting a casino, within a regulatory structure that is strong, with clear benefit to our taxpayers. Unlike our current framework, LD 1902 forces us to absorb the risks of expanded gambling without any of the protections or revenue sharing that currently exist for casino gaming. That is not a responsible approach to public finance, and it is not fair to the people we serve.

For these reasons, and on behalf of the taxpayers and communities of Oxford County, I respectfully urge you to reject LD 1902.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Keim

Lisa Keim
Oxford County Commissioner, District 2
Dixfield, ME