



## **Arrow International, Inc.**

Maine Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee

Testimony

January 14, 2026

Good morning Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about the benefits of LD1902 which would allow for a modernization of your state's current sealed ticket program.

This bill would greatly benefit Maine's charitable community, including organizations such as the VFW, American Legion, Moose, Elks, Eagles, and the community initiatives they support throughout the state.

My name is Darcy DaCosta and I am Vice President of Government Relations for Arrow International. Arrow International is the leading full-service provider of charitable gaming products and services. We are licensed here in Maine and have been selling our bingo supplies and sealed ticket games here for many years.

Arrow exclusively serves the charitable community and has seen firsthand the benefits a modern electronic program can bring to these charitable organizations without any detrimental impact on the commercial gaming sector.

Simply put, charitable gaming is low stakes fun, at, by and for, the organizations that participate. The revenue generated brings significant positive impact for organizations and the communities their efforts support. Charitable gaming dollars stay local and support such things as: scholarships, food pantries, local volunteer fire companies and holiday giving campaigns.

Electronic sealed ticket (e-tabs) programs provide a digital version of traditional paper ticket games, offering significant benefits for charitable organizations, players and the state.

I'd like to address some of the expected opposition myths that you may hear and look forward to answering any additional questions.

Myth One: Paper sealed tickets will go away.

Absolutely not true. Nothing in the bill addresses the paper product and nothing can replace the experience of breaking open a paper sealed ticket to a regular player. Paper sealed ticket games are an important revenue source that goes back decades. They will continue to be part of the offering. Electronic sealed ticket games offer a modern style of gameplay that may interest a different and younger audience. Attracting younger members is essential to the continued sustainability of organizations like the VFW and American Legion and electronics are more appealing to them than their “grandfather’s game”. In the states that have already legalized electronic solutions, organizations have seen significant increases in net receipts and a shift from membership decline to membership growth.

Myth Two: Electronic sealed ticket machines are slot machines.

Again, false. While electronic play does offer additional entertainment and provides some bells and whistles paper games do not have, they are in no way slot machines. Etabs are structured the same as a “deal” of the paper game. There is a set number of tickets, predetermined winners, and a definite and distinct number of winners. There is no similarity in law or structure to a commercial slot machine.

Third, this will turn the local VFW into a mini casino.

Again, it is simply false. The bill restricts the number of devices allowed at a location and these locations generally limit access to members and their guests.

In conclusion, LD1902 provides for increased revenues to charities, contributes to the sustainability and growth of local organizations whose dollars stay in the community, streamlines reporting, and brings a new, modern style of charitable gaming to Maine.

Thank you for the opportunity to present comments and I will answer any questions today and at the forthcoming work session.