

Written Testimony

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Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the VLA Committee, my name is Dave Anderson and I am the Public Relations Chairman for the Maine Elks Association. The Benevolent Protective order of Elks is a fraternal association founded in 1868 on the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. Elks care and Elks share.

Please accept this testimony in support of LD1902, legislation to improve charitable gaming in Maine.

This legislation streamlines the management of charitable games, increases accountability, modernizes the game offerings to appeal to a wider variety of members, and allows for new electronic sealed ticket (Lucky 7) games. Such changes would allow eligible organizations, like ours, to generate new, sustainable revenue in support of our missions

Charitable gaming has been meaningful revenue source for the Portland Moose and has allowed us to raise funds to support operating costs, college scholarships, and to support numerous veteran and charitable

Sealed tickets are a specialized form of legal charitable gaming that is available to members and guests of our fraternal organization when they are visiting our halls or attending our events.

This measure would not drastically change the gaming landscape in Maine. It simply gives the posts and lodges the option to introduce a modernized method of selling sealed ticket games that would enhance the entertainment value for our members. This legislation does not replace our paper ticket programs, it simply adds a new option.

Our continual goal is to engage a younger demographic to improve the sustainability of our organization. This legislation supports that effort.

This bill will have no financial impact on current commercial gaming operations in the state. However, the impact on our organization would be substantial, as it will improve our ability to sustain our organizations and further our humanitarian and charitable goals.

Additionally, the updated technology includes a robust system for collection and reporting of data which will allow for member organizations to have a more accurate accounting of the games and the

revenue raised from them. The updated technology will also ease regulatory duties by streamlining auditing and report generation. Thank you.

David Anderson
Maine Elks Association
LD 1902

Hello,
I attended the hearing but decided to submit my testimony electronically. Thank you.