



Testimony Opposing LD 1902

"An Act to Support Nonprofit Organizations by Authorizing the Operation of Electronic Lucky Seven Devices and Similar Sealed Ticket Games"

January 14, 2026

Senator Craig Hickman and Honorable Members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee:

My name is Deb Neuman. I live in Hampden and serve as President of the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of the BRCC Board of Directors, I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to LD 1902.

We understand the intent of this bill is to create additional revenue opportunities for nonprofit organizations, particularly those serving veterans. We support that goal. However, we are concerned about the unintended consequences this legislation could have on a long standing, well respected economic driver and employer in the Bangor region and the State of Maine, Hollywood Casino Hotel & Raceway.

Hollywood Casino has contributed significant revenues, totaling millions of dollars in gaming taxes to both the City of Bangor and the State of Maine. In addition, Hollywood provides good paying, sought after jobs with benefits and consistently supports local organizations and nonprofits that rely on strong private sector partners.

We know first-hand that Hollywood Casino is a major attraction for visitors and residents. It offers a professional, well managed gaming and entertainment experience and is often included as part of a broader visit to the Bangor region. These visitors spend money at local restaurants, attend concerts, and shop at area businesses, creating a positive ripple effect throughout our economy.

This bill would create a competitive disadvantage for an organization that has invested in infrastructure and operations for nearly two decades and has a proven track record of contributing millions of dollars to Maine's economy.

Additionally, while we are not experts in gaming regulation, we are concerned about the potential lack of consistent, on-site oversight necessary to ensure machines are not accessed by minors or by individuals struggling with gambling addiction. Gaming conducted within the walls of Hollywood Casino provides established safeguards and regulatory protections that may not exist in other settings.

For these reasons, we strongly urge the committee to carefully consider the negative implications this bill could have on the Bangor region, Maine's economy and citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Deb Neuman, President, Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce

deb@bangorregion.com

