

February 27, 2009

To: Senator Harris, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee

From: Kim Jubrey, 13 year Foxwood Table Games Dealer

Re: HB 5608 AAC the Issuance of Liquor Permits to Casinos that Permit Smoking in the Casino

Good afternoon, my name is Kim Jubrey. I am a 13 year table games dealer at Foxwoods. I want to thank the committee for raising this bill, but I am here to urge you to adopt the substitute language proposed by the Attorney General. As written, house bill 5608 does not address our health and safety concerns.

In July 2007 I was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer. On July 24, 2007 I had surgery and returned to work 3 days later. On September 25th I then went out on disability to receive chemotherapy and radiation.

In February 2008 I received a letter from Foxwoods (copy attached) stating that if I don't return to work by March 25, 2008, I will have to resign. I returned to work on March 25th - 2 days after completing my radiation therapy.

Before returning to work I was told by my doctor that exposure to second hand smoke would put me at risk for a reoccurrence of my cancer. As a result on March 5, before returning to work I requested that I be placed at a non-smoking pit – Pit 5.

On March 6, I received the attached response which I will read some excerpts from:

“We are in receipt of your request and supporting documentation for a schedule restriction to Pit 5 and have granted conditional and limited approval for the maximum period of 8 weeks to be based upon pace/game availability.

Please be aware that while Pit 5 provides a limited number of designated ‘non-smoking’ tables, they are in a location where customers are permitted to smoke in adjacent aisles and surrounding areas.

We will make every attempt to schedule you only in Pit 5 during the approved time frame; however we CANNOT GUARANTEE that you will not be scheduled in other locations.

Again, please note that the maximum time frame allowed for a schedule restriction is 8 weeks per employee.”

I like my job, I want my job and I need my job. And I want you to take care of my health and vote a bill out of this committee that will protect my health just like all other workers in Connecticut.

Thank you.