Department of Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States

P.O. BOX 429 Rocky Hill, CT 06067 (860)616-2360 Fax: (860) 616-2364
hqct@vfw.necoxmail.com vfwct.org

Testimony of Mr. Robert Froelick, State Commander Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Connecticut In Opposition to Bill 5387 An Act Concerning Keno
February 26, 2014

Senator Hartley, Representation Dargan and Distinguished Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

On behalf of the members of the Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), I am writing today to urge you to oppose Bill 5387, which will prohibit the Lottery's implementation of Keno. We believe that Keno will help sales and increase business in the VFW posts, restaurants, and retail establishments throughout Connecticut. During these past years of recession, VFW posts, restaurants, and other retail establishments have suffered along with many other small businesses in the State. We feel that by offering Keno, organizations such as ours will be able to attract more members not only from Connecticut, but from bordering states that are near our venues as well.

In surrounding states, Keno has proven to be very successful in generating revenue for the states and the Keno retailers, as well as increasing job opportunities as a result of the increased traffic created in Keno establishments. In Connecticut specifically, we believe Keno will be as popular with our members as it is in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and all of the 14 US jurisdictions that offer the lottery game. Not only would Keno benefit Connecticut businesses and provide entertainment for our members, but revenue projections show that the State stands to benefit as much as $31 million over two years.

Bill 5387 would destroy a valuable opportunity for our VFW establishments in the state and we respectfully urge you to vote in opposition of this harmful legislation.

Respectfully,

Robert J Froelick

Mr. Robert Froelick State Commander
Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Connecticut

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.