

To: Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
From: Dimitrios Dimopoulos, Southington, JD's Pizzeria Bar & Grill
Re: Please support HB 7054, An Act Concerning Keno
Date: 4/8/2015

My name is Dimitrios Dimopoulos and I am the owner of JD's Pizzeria Bar & Grill in Southington, CT. I would like to voice my enthusiastic support for HB7054 that would allow Connecticut Restaurant and Bars the ability to offer Keno to our Patrons.

I have been the owner of JD's for almost 40 years and from my experience, I believe that Keno would be very beneficial to my business for many reasons. These are but a few:

- a. Keep Patrons local through Entertainment: Many of our patrons like Keno and would leave our area to go to the casinos for this entertainment. Allowing Keno in our restaurant would keep this business in our area of Connecticut (Not Massachusetts).
- b. Bring in New Patrons/Marketing: Offering Keno would allow new people to come in to our business because we offer Keno. My restaurant is on a prime location on Queen Street as over 30,000 cars drive per day and we are surrounded by every chain restaurants you can think of including Outback Steakhouse, Chilis, Denny's and Buffalo Wild Wings. If these people were aware we offered Keno, many of these people would come in even though they never stopped in before. This would us to create better awareness of the great food and service that we as a small business provide.
- c. Keep people in seat longer: Not only would we get more new customers, our existing customers would stay in their seats longer because of Keno. Because they are entertained and waiting to play, they can get something to eat an additional drink. This would increase our sales and revenues as they stay longer.
- d. Increase tips for our Servers: As our business increases, our employees benefit as well. As our guests stay longer and increase their average check, the average tip should increase as well. This will allow us to keep and attract the best talent to keep our business strong and successful.

These are but a few of the reasons that I support HB7054 and feel that it would benefit me personally not to mention the increase business for my distributors, the increased tax revenue that the State would collect etc.

Thanks for your time and I hope you consider my viewpoint when you decide on this important decision for Connecticut businesses.

Dimitrios Dimopoulos
Owner
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