

To: Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee.

From: Elizabeth Mitchell, Owner, Handlebar Café, 210 South Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT.

Re: HB 7054 an Act Regarding CT Keno.

Date: 4/14/2015

Please support HB 7054, an Act concerning Keno. This bill is especially important to me and will tremendously help my business. My business is located less than 2 miles from the Rhode Island border. There are currently 4 establishments, within a half mile radius, located directly over the border, that offer Keno. On a DAILY basis, my customers express that they would stay longer if I offered Keno. Instead of staying at my business, I watch them leave and head to Rhode Island, often in groups, to play Keno. I have an employee that works at both my establishment and also at a bordering RI tavern. He constantly reports to me the enthusiasm he sees for RI Keno play and the lost revenue to my CT business due the lack of offering Keno. We currently offer CT State Lottery, however, customers truly miss the social interaction that Keno creates. Please consider the revenue that is lost to bordering small businesses and support HB 7054. Please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

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