



Sportech INC

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Written Testimony of Ted Taylor, President of Sportech Venues, New Haven, Connecticut
Raised Senate Bill 1090, An Act Concerning Gaming
March 17, 2015

Senator Larson, Representative Dargan and distinguished members of the Public Safety and Security Committee. My name is Ted Taylor, President of Sportech Venues, based in New Haven.

Sportech is a global company that has owned the exclusive license for Pari-Mutuel gaming in Connecticut since purchasing the business four years ago. We have 15 locations spread throughout the state and work hard to be excellent custodians of our license; we have invested more than \$10 million dollars improving these businesses, we employ almost 400 people, and relocated our US Headquarters to New Haven. We also have plans to invest almost \$10 million dollars more in Connecticut this year. We are proud of the work in the last four (4) years to transform a "tired OTB operation" into a much improved experience.

Like the casinos, the competition from the MGM Casino in Springfield, Massachusetts will have a negative impact on our business in Windsor Locks. However, this is fair competition, which is why we invested almost \$5 million dollars there last year including a new sports bar and restaurant alongside the gaming areas to help us compete fairly when MGM opens. We sit within the Airport Economic Development Zone, so hope to grow as the airport does, which is the same logic as that applied by the owners of the 1,400 hotel rooms nearby.

Our Windsor Locks property is located only 3.4 miles from I-91 and 10 miles from the Massachusetts border. Building another new Casino nearby, in addition to MGM Springfield, would have a devastating effect on our business and its employees. New Casinos on the scale being discussed alongside the three main Interstates would obviously have a profound and negative impact on other leisure and entertainment businesses nearby and merely move employment and revenue a few miles away and to different owners.

Apart from Mohegan and Foxwoods we are the only other operator with gaming properties in the state and some of these could easily be enlarged. Our Windsor Locks/Bradley facility is built on six (6) acres and has 38,000sq feet and presents a much easier opportunity to quickly facilitate expanded gaming in partnership with Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods, in a location already regulated by DCP, and a community that has grown to accept gaming.







Some pictures are included with this testimony and I encourage members of the committee to visit to understand how this might be achieved as expanding an existing facility will be much easier than starting from scratch in new locations particularly given the lengthy and complex planning regulations that need to be fulfilled, and the public debate that will take place.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with this committee, the General Assembly and both tribes toward a solution that helps to counter the impact that MGM Springfield is expected to have without destroying our own business unfairly.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.



Bradley Airport Investment Zone

-  Bradley Airport Investment Zone
-  Census Blocks Containing Zone
-  Major Highway
-  Highway
-  Local Road
-  Town Boundary

1 inch equals 4,000 feet



For Planning and Analysis Purposes Only
 Sources: CROCG and Municipal GIS Databases,
 CT 2004 Orthophotography,
 Tabulars Street Data
 U.S. Census 2000 Data
 Prepared by The Capitol Region Council of Governments
 Date: April 9, 2009

