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*The Town of Windsor Locks*  
*Home of Bradley International Airport*

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**Written Testimony of First Selectman Steven N. Wawruck, Jr., Town of Windsor Locks, CT  
In Support of HB 5378, an Act Concerning Video Slots at Certain Off-Track Betting Facilities**

Senator Larson, Representative Dargan, and distinguished members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Steve Wawruck, First Selectman of The Town of Windsor Locks, home of the "Gateway to New England".

I support HB 5378 because it's an important first step to jump start the discussions on how to protect not only the jobs and local tax revenue from the Winners/Bobby V's location in my community but as well as state revenue and jobs across the state of Connecticut.

The marketing plan developed by MGM for the Springfield, MA casino is to attract and pull as many tourists and guests from Connecticut. They have made no secret about this and will attempt to recapture those who currently travel to Connecticut's gaming entertainment venues. The competition from the new casinos in Massachusetts (especially Springfield) will have a profound negative impact on Windsor Locks as well as the State of Connecticut and its gaming industry, if the State stands by and takes no action at all.

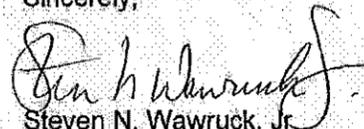
The Town of Windsor Locks has enjoyed an excellent relationship with Sportech Venues who owns and manages the Winners off track betting facility. They have been great corporate neighbors and an important and long term employer of over 100 people. Sportech contributes consistent tax revenue to the town. The company has made big investments in the Bobby V's restaurant and overall upgrades to the business.

We need to protect those jobs and investments that have been made in our community.

In closing, I would make myself available to serve in any capacity to begin serious discussions about protecting jobs and revenue in my local community as well as across the state of Connecticut from the very real and serious competition from Massachusetts.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

  
Steven N. Wawruck, Jr.  
First Selectman