



## General Law Committee

Testimony of: Chris Grimm, on behalf of DraftKings, FanDuel and the Fantasy Sports Trade Association

### IN SUPPORT OF:

Raised S.B. No. 192 AN ACT CONCERNING FANTASY SPORTS

Co-Chairman Leone, Co-Chairman Baram, Ranking member Wtikos, Ranking member Carter, members of the committee,

My name is Chris Grimm and I am here today to testify on behalf of DraftKings, FanDuel and the Fantasy Sports Trade Association in support of SB 192, the Fantasy Sports Act.

The Fantasy Sports Trade Association represents more than 350 companies nationally, including ESPN, NBC, Fox Sports, CBS, NFL.com, and Yahoo! Sports, as well as a number of Connecticut companies, including: Fantasy Life, Picklive Sports, Silver Sports Entertainment and Sports Technologies.

Fantasy sports are our new national past time, played more than 50 million Americans for the past 35 years. And while there have been innovations, the concept has remained the same throughout.

The objective is to select a team of real-world athletes that earn points based on their performance, and compete against others players. For example, in fantasy football, players typically select their own team of eight real-world football players: a quarterback, running back, wide receivers, tight ends, and a kicker.

Like any owner or general manager the goal is to assemble a team of players that will accumulate the most points.

Daily or weekly fantasy contests are not different. The same principles found in season-long exist just on a shorter time frame. So instead of waiting an entire season to crown a champion, a daily or weekly contest takes place over the course of a single day or weekend.

And regardless of the length of the contest, fantasy sports is a game predominantly based on skill, not a game of chance; there is no systemic chance; in fantasy sports. It is not enough to know the most popular teams and their most recognizable stars. Fantasy

players need to understand scoring systems, the particular strengths of different players, the type of offensive scheme that they play in, and the quality of their matchups.

And Congress agrees, carving our fantasy sports from a 2006 law on unlawful internet gaming.

This is why we support SB192, although we would like to offer some amendments that we feel strengthen the consumer protections and provide a greater degree of certainty for the industry. My colleague will speak to these in detail.

I would also like to add that we have met with the lottery and shared our amendment language with them, and are working on crafting mutually agreeable language.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today in support of SB192, and I am happy to answer any questions.