



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER DAVIS FIFTY-SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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MEMBER
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EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS
COMMITTEE

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 11 Public Safety & Security Committee February 26, 2019

Co-Chairs Bradley and Verrengia; Vice Chairs Osten and Paolillo; Ranking Members Hwang and Sredzinski; and distinguished Members of the Public Safety Committee.

I write in support of S.B. 11: An Act Concerning the Authorization of a Casino Gaming facility in East Windsor, which will improve Connecticut's tourism industry as well as promote business development and job growth in north central Connecticut. The authorization of a casino gaming facility in East Windsor will provide a unique opportunity to collect substantial revenue and to create and retain thousands of jobs for both East Windsor and the State of Connecticut.

The MMCT project will provide a large investment to the town of East Windsor, paying initially \$8.5 million annually to the town. This amounts to about \$761.51 per capita investment as opposed to the \$162.65 per capita amount that MGM provides in Springfield, MA.

A facility in East Windsor would help prevent tourism revenue and jobs from escaping to Massachusetts. After nearly thirty years of partnership with the tribal nations, the State of Connecticut is in a unique situation to have agreements in place to provide exclusivity of casino gaming to those tribes. I support this bill based on my extensive assurances from the tribes that they have no desire to end the existing partnership with the state and that the other requirements within the initial bill also help ensure that only they can open this facility and they would not be able to use it to break the current agreements. They have assured me, and this committee, on numerous occurrences that they truly are looking to continue to partner with our state to grow Connecticut's economy and jobs. The final authorization of a casino in East Windsor is a significant investment that the state of Connecticut and Town of East Windsor cannot afford to pass up at this time.

I respectfully ask the committee to please consider supporting S.B. 11 so we can continue to work towards a shared goal of job growth and revenue retention for our state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Davis".

Christopher Davis
State Representative – 57th District