

February 25, 2019

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee:

My name is Carla Dietz and I am from Fairfield, CT . I am a member of the Coalition Against Casino Expansion in Connecticut (CACE). CACE is a group of 14 faith communities and organizations representing over a million people in Connecticut. I am writing today in opposition to H.B. 7055: An Act Creating the Connecticut Gambling Commission and Creating a Competitive Bidding Process for a Resort Casino and I am also opposed to S.B. 11 An Act Concerning the Authorization of a Casino Gaming Facility in East Windsor. I am also opposed to S.B.17 An Act Authorizing Sports Wagering, Internet Gambling and Internet Keno and lastly, I am opposed to S.B. 665 An Act Concerning Sports Wagering.

With Mohegan Sun, Foxwoods, MGM Springfield, Plainridge Casino and Twin Rivers *there are more than enough* Casinos in CT, MA and RI now. I cannot find any reason another one would serve the public in any substantial way. Gambling is a real and present addiction which affects my parishioners and family alike. Please consider the creation of healthy alternatives to the building of low wage, addictive gambling casinos. They can call it “Gaming” but we all know it is in all honesty Gambling and the house always wins, taking resources out of the pockets of millions of citizens every single day. Day in and day out.

Thank you for your time and for reading my testimony.

Reverend Carla Dietz, MA, M.Div.

Interim Senior Pastor First Congregational Church of Greenwich CT
and resident/voter in Fairfield CT