



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE KATHLEEN M. McCARTY
THIRTY-EIGHTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

226 GREAT NECK ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385

HOME: (860) 442-2903
CAPITOL: (800) 842-1423
Kathleen.McCarty@housegop.ct.gov

RANKING MEMBER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

February 26, 2019 * 10:00am* 1E

Testimony in support of Proposed SB 11 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF A CASINO GAMING FACILITY IN EAST WINDSOR.

Dear Chairmen Bradley and Verrengia, Ranking Members Hwang and Sredzinski, and distinguished members of the Public Safety & Security Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of S.B. 11 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF A CASINO GAMING FACILITY IN EAST WINDSOR.

It is important to note that during these challenging economic times that the East Windsor Casino, **Tribal Winds** will generate approximately 70 million dollars in revenue annually to the state. Tribal Winds also has the potential of keeping the Connecticut economy growing by the creation of 5,000 new jobs. These are good paying jobs that will ensure fair wages and benefits; Jobs that are much needed in our state. In fact, it is projected that once the casino is open for business it will employ 2,000 individuals directly at the casino.

As a legislature, we need to remove any existing barriers that keep this much needed casino project from moving forward. The plan has been approved by the voters in East Windsor, the tribes have invested nearly 15 million dollars already in the project, and it is a shovel ready project.

Finally, The Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Tribes have worked in harmony and with mutual respect over the past decades contributing 8 billion dollars to the state in tax revenue. They pledge to continue to work together on this project for their mutual benefit and for the benefit of our state. As a state we cannot afford to lose the support and partnership of these two tribes.

Much progress has been made regarding the operation of Tribal Winds at both the local and state levels. It is time now to remove the last barrier to the project by giving your thoughtful consideration to an amendment to the Connecticut General Statutes in this matter. The amendment would eliminate the

requirement for approval by the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior regarding the operation of a gaming casino in East Windsor.

I urge the Public Safety & Security Committee to move this bill forward to the full General Assembly for its consideration. Thank you in advance for reading my testimony *IN SUPPORT* of S.B. 11 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF A CASINO GAMING FACILITY IN EAST WINDSOR.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. McCarty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kathleen M. McCarty
State Representative, 38th District
Waterford, Montville