

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee:

My name is Hector Rodriguez and I am from Vernon. 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.

I once had this music instructor. He was the best instructor I've ever had, he was harsh and brutally honest. He was capable of picking up the exact member of the band that had played a note sharp or flat. His music room was littered with trophies that he had won from the beginning of his carrier at the school to date. He was a very proud and, outside the classroom, a very nice teacher. Years after graduating I heard that he had quit his job at the middle school to pursue his attachment to gambling. We were all familiar with the fact that he was fond of blackjack, but never assumed he would drop one joy for the other. That school lost a very talented teacher to the effects of gambling. I believe we should prevent further growth of casinos to prevent losing more influential individuals in our community's.

Thank you for your time and for reading my testimony.

Hector Rodriguez