

To: Committee Members

Re: S.B No 11
S.B. N 17
S.B. No 665
S.B. No 7055

It has come to my attention that the above bills are being promoted. My opposition is to all of them!

Simply put, gambling is not a growth industry be it a casino in East Windsor or elsewhere within our state. Even if physical locations aren't built, I view online Keno and sports betting in the same light. Trying to foster addiction isn't a valid approach on how to handle our state's debt.

If MGM-Springfield has taught us anything, it's that their revenues are not meeting expectations. Face it. There are only so many gamblers to draw from and that pool is shrinking with the opening of casino's in surrounding states as they all compete for the same market share. I think it's called the Law of Diminishing Returns.

Connecticut's thought that these bills will be revenue producer's is erroneous. No one promoting these bills wants to affix a dollar amount to the pressure on CT social services. These services are in demand as it is. The thought passing these bills will provide them with more operational money is false. Passage would only create further demand. Keep in mind uncontrollable gambling, or the spin-off's from that industry, such as prostitution and drugs, have a downward spiral. The losers are young and old alike, be they seniors betting away their social security or families not making their mortgage payments and going into foreclosure.

Lastly, S.B. 7055 is particularly disturbing to me. I feel, we are a country of states that roll up under the umbrella of our federal government. Passing this bill would lead to future Senate bills aimed at splintering and eroding the structure the United States of America.

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