

March 2, 2021

Written Testimony of Jack Maloney in Regard to Sports Betting in Connecticut

Co-Chairs Horn and Bradley and members of the Committee, My Name is Jack Maloney, and I am the owner of Shea's Pizzeria & Sports Bar in Manchester, CT. I am testifying regarding sports betting in Connecticut and why Shea's should be a location in that discussion.

The Connecticut lottery, Sportech, and Native Americans have been the partners of the State for quite some time, and all should be included in sports betting.

I can personally speak about Sportech. They have been a tenant at Shea's for over ten years and have been a good partner to us and to the State.

Let me give you some insight about Shea's. The main building of 8400 sqft, the inside occupancy is 269. The patio is 12,300 sqft that seats 430. You can see it is a relatively large facility with over 20,000 sqft and occupancy of about 700.

Brick and Mortar facilities like Shea's are vital for the success of sports betting, in conjunction with online services.

If you look at states that are successful, they have multiple locations throughout their states. If you just had the two casino locations, then no one would change their betting habits. Older generations would continue with their "bookies," and the younger generations would keep using offshore accounts. Remember, we see many people thru racing and Jai alai that come into Shea's that tell us they won't change their betting platforms if it is not convenient.

We all have seen what New Jersey has done in wagering in 2020. In a Covid world and no March Madness, they did \$6 Billion Dollars, with the state getting \$345 Million Dollars. Not bad after 2nd year. There is no reason to think that Connecticut cannot do between 40-55 percent of 6 Billion Dollars, provided they let the two casino locations, the OTB locations of Sportech, and internet wagering, that the numbers cannot be hit. This is just for sports betting; if you allow the casino to take internet gaming for slots, poker and lottery online, you probably could receive an additional 250 Million Dollars annually.

In closing, I would like to extend a personal invite to Shea's for the Kentucky Derby to see what Brick and Mortar locations can do for sporting events. I know Senator Cassano will be here with his wife for the hat and dress contest. This event will be done with social distancing enforced. Thank you for your time, and I would enjoy the chance to have you visit Shea's to discuss this matter a lot further.