



## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chairs Drazan, and Holvey, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 3394.

The House General Government Committee took up several bills dealing with gambling legislation this session. We quickly learned that the last comprehensive review of gambling was 25 years ago, the year the Google search engine was invented, in 1996.

Due to new technology, access to gambling is now at our fingertips all times of the day. This has led to a concern with online high-velocity gambling because it has all the addictive features with none of the access restrictions in place for games at bars or on tribal lands.

Earlier in the session the House General Government Committee looked at House Bill 3078 that would have prohibited the Oregon Lottery from offering certain types of games on mobile devices. Currently, the Lottery does not offer these types of games. However, to my surprise, and I think the surprise of many in the legislature, we found that a company licensed through the Oregon Racing Commission was already offering these types of addictive online high-velocity games.

Through an amendment proposed to Senate Bill 165, we will end these online high-velocity games that are currently being offered by this company. I have also submitted that same amendment for HB 3394 (the -3 amendment) a backup for the committee to consider if needed. While this will stop legal high-velocity online gambling from currently being offered, the task force should also examine what actions we can take to stop online black-market gambling, which is in direct competition with the Lottery and the Tribes.

Hopefully, HB 3394's State Gambling Task Force will be able to reexamine how to allow recreational gaming for those who enjoy it, deter problem gambling, and make sure that the Tribes, Oregon Lottery, and Oregon Racing Commission are all operating on the same level playing field.

Colleagues – I hope you will join me in supporting HB 3394.

