



Thank you lawmakers for giving me this time to speak.

My name is Rachel Keller and I am the President of the bloomington-kennedy activities foundation located in Bloomington Minnesota.

About 6 years ago we noticed that there was a high need for additional funds to come in for families that are experiencing financial hard times. These are not necessarily families that qualify for free and reduced lunch rate but it's for all families that have students in activities at Kennedy highschool. Families like myself with 3 kids, which we were blessed that we didn't need qualify for free and reduced lunch rates but yet there are times more financially it's tough when all the financial activities needs come at once for our kids. So we started this foundation as a hand up for families and groups at Kennedy Highschool.

At that time and even tougher now, We were noticing a downswing on fundraising tactics of selling stuff, going door to door going to our family going to our neighborhoods to sell items. Although that can be a fine way to fundraise in smaller communities but in but in our larger city community we do find it difficult, we serve a high level of low income families that don't have the resources or the neighborhoods or the families to even fundraise. Our foundation partners with the high school in assisting our families with shoes, paying for fees, uniforms, equipment, singing lessons, group events etc...

As our foundation is right now, we are finding it difficult to find other ways to increase our revenue, and just recently I started praying and asking the Lord for new ideas to bring in extra revenue to support our ever-increasing needs at Kennedy high School. Right now BKAF or Bloomington Kennedy activities foundation relies solely on charitable gambling for raising funds.. We at BKAF staffs the bingo for Post 550 at Sports Page in Bloomington, they hold the license we do the work, they donate to our 501c3.

Cuts to charitable gambling hurt the Legion's ability to support BKAF.. However, with etab revenue down, it hurts the ability of the licensed charity at bars to aid other charities in their community.

Post 550 gives about \$29,000 to BKAF a year.

Please reconsider opening up this law and revisiting previous gaming structures. I wanted to share with you my little story as the small tweaks and changes to gambling hurt the everyday families and groups like myself.

Be blessed and stay warm