



MEASURE: HB 2007  
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 H BUSINESS & LABOR  
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 SUBMITTED BY: Ron Schmidt

March 20, 2013

The House Committee on Business and Labor  
 Attn: Representative Margaret Doherty, Chair  
 Representatives Brent Barton & Bill Kennemer, Vice-Chairs  
 Representatives Shemia Fagan, Tim Freeman, Paul Holvey, Greg Matthews, Kim Thatcher, Jim Thompson,  
 Jim Weidner, and Brad Witt  
 Oregon State Capital  
 900 Court Street NE  
 Room 453  
 Salem, OR 97301

HB 2007

Good Morning. I am Ron Schmidt and I am a 26 year resident of Hayden Island and of Jantzen Beach Moorage which is the homeowners group of 177 families next door - directly adjacent- to the casino operations referred to as Lottery Row. I am an active member of the North Portland Neighborhood Chairs Network and I am the Chair of the City of Portland authorized neighborhood association, the Hayden Island Neighborhood Network, known as HINooN.

HINooN, on behalf of the citizens in North Portland, supports HB 2007 and urge you to pass it. The North Portland Neighborhood Chairs Network representing over 40,000 residents in North Portland supports us in this effort.

Our community of over two thousand residents and hundreds of businesses has been sorely affected by a perfect storm of outside influences and events. Instead of being a beautiful and welcoming entry into the City of Portland and the great State of Oregon, we have been reduced to the level of a crime filled border town.

We have seen the out of state profiteers come into our neighborhood and take our only community retail core and turn it into a life support system for the lottery machines that generate the profits some of which are sent out of the state.

We have seen the OR Liquor Control Commission and the Oregon Lottery do little with the enforcement tools they currently have.

We have seen the overall crime go down on our island yet dramatically escalate within one thousand feet of

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Lottery Row. While the casino owners once argued cause and effect, the Portland Police and North Precinct Commander Mike Leloff are certain about the attraction, Lottery Row. Crimes recently associated with Lottery Row include a gun fight with serious injuries and a homicide.

We have had these profiteers appear at our neighborhood association meetings with high profile attorneys and political and PR experts all funded by our lottery dollars. You will likely hear from these hired guns today. You will hear this morning from residents who took time from their jobs and their lives to testify. You will not hear from the thousands of residents who need your help but who cannot take the time from their jobs to make the journey here.

As a business person who founded a company in Oregon, I know that businesses are established for bottom line profit, not revenue. For you to understand what a business really is, look at the profit centers, not the revenues. We believe the casino owners trying to generate non gambling revenues by selling cigarettes and alcohol at cost is a key reason for the negative environment that has formed and caused many of the problems.

Passage of this bill will eliminate the revenue game being played, minimize the negative environment that breeds crime and give legitimate restaurants and bars an equal playing field and reward them for bringing wanted products and services to the community.

Please pass HB 2007.

Sincerely,



Ronald Schmidt, Chair HINooN

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