



TO: The Honorable Representative Tomei, Chair
House Human Services and Housing Committee

FROM: Jeff Marotta, Ph.D.

DATE: February 5, 2014

SUBJECT: HB 4040 – Lottery Responsible Gambling Policy

Chair Tomei and members of the committee, my name is Jeff Marotta, Owner and Senior Consultant of the consulting firm, Problem Gambling Solutions, Inc.. I am a nationally recognized problem gambling and responsible gambling expert and have provided consultation on responsible gambling programs to state agencies and regulatory bodies nationally and internationally. Up until recently, I had a 13 year relationship with the Oregon State Lottery (OSL) as their primary responsible gambling and problem gambling consultant. Over this time period, there has been five different Lottery Directors and varying degrees of effort placed into responsible gambling practices.

Although the OSL recently unveiled a Responsible Gambling Program Plan that closely reflects the language in HB 4040, this bill is needed to stem the past ebb and flow of OSL responsible gambling efforts by codifying what the OSL has set into motion, namely the development of a comprehensive responsible gambling policy.

Passage of this bill will represent a significant and important step in assuring the OSL will consistently perform as a responsible gambling operator. This bill supports principles of corporate social responsibility and importantly builds in measures to keep the OSL accountable.

Thank you for devoting your time and energy into strengthening protections against gambling related harm in Oregon and for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions.