



**BILL KENNEMER**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 39

February 20, 2014

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for hearing HB 4028A today which relates to the lottery and gambling.

Unfortunately, I have a complicated and contested bill up today in Senate Rural Communities at the same time you are hearing HB 4028A, and I cannot be here in person. However, I do want to officially request your support of HB 4028A and the -2s amendments being proposed. Please accept this letter as my confirmation of this support.

Rep. Tomei and I, together with Rep. Julie Parrish and Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer and multiple stakeholders, have been working on this issue and this bill for some time. Similarly, the -2 amendments are a product of that collaboration.

Gambling addiction is a real and serious problem. As a psychologist, I understand the scourge of addiction and the havoc it wreaks on individuals, families and the community at large. Additionally, over 90% of the 80,000 Oregonians that are addicted to gambling are addicted to our Oregon state-run video lottery.

But it's not just vulnerable Oregonians addicted to gambling –we, as a state, are addicted to the revenue it produces. It's over \$1 billion a biennium which is used to fund vital services like education, parks and more.

The Oregon State Lottery is directed to maximize revenue, “commensurate with the public good”. We’ve done a good job at maximizing revenue. It is incumbent on us, the policy makers of the state, to make sure that the broader notion of “public good” is also a consideration!

Others today will talk about the details in these bills. But I want to personally thank Jack Roberts, the new Director of the Oregon Lottery, for his help and support of these measures. He will be here today to officially support HB 4028A, and has publicly voiced that he has no problem with the ideas proposed in the -2 amendments.

Under this new leadership, the lottery is moving in a better direction. These proposals will assure that, as administrations come and go, the lottery will continue **to raise revenue, but will also balance it commensurate with the public good.**

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this message to you; I urge your support of HB4028A and the -2 Amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Kenemer".

Bill Kenemer  
State Representative, District 39