



Media Contact:
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WRITTEN TESTIMONY: Support for House Bill 2761

Honorable Members of the Oregon House Business and Labor Committee:

My name is Michael Grimes, and I serve as executive director of the Stop Daily Fantasy Gambling coalition, a national 501(c)4 nonprofit organization dedicated to stopping the proliferation of illegal gambling like daily fantasy sports gambling. I appreciate the opportunity to write you today in support of House Bill 2761 currently being considered in the House Business and Labor Committee. Many states across the nation are struggling with the question of whether and how to allow online daily fantasy sports gambling amid an aggressive legislative push by the big companies that run these games of chance, and the approach taken by HB 2761 will ensure the best interests of the citizens of Oregon are protected.

Stop Daily Fantasy Gambling strongly supports the inclusion of “daily fantasy game” as a “contest of chance” as previously defined in Oregon law in SECTION 1. ORS 167.117. Daily fantasy sports gambling is operated online by a relatively new, largely unregulated corporate industry that has been plagued by scandal in many other states. Major gambling industry companies like FanDuel and DraftKings are trying to persuade legislators to treat daily fantasy gambling as a game of skill, allowing them to circumvent the gambling laws in many states, despite the simple fact that internet-based sporting events are clearly not under the control of the player and with the understanding that players may receive something of value dependent on the outcome, all critical components of gambling as defined by current Oregon law. Therefore the approach taken by HB 2761 is advisable and appropriate.

Again, Stop Daily Fantasy Gambling fully supports HB 2761 and the efforts to appropriately regulate this form of gambling. Please feel free to contact me with any question or concerns you may have regarding this issue.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Grimes'.

Michael Grimes
Executive Director, Stop Daily Fantasy Gambling