

To Whom it May Concern:

I oppose Bill 2190.

My name is Keith Rivera, I live in Salem and have been playing poker 8 years and I oppose Bill 2190 because:

What I have come to know and enjoy about Texas Hold 'em is that it is a game of skill, an intellectual game, where you can learn things about your opponents based on how they play or make moves, much like chess. This puts it in a different class than gambling based on pure luck such as blackjack or slot games.

Poker is played with live individuals, real people in real life, so interacting with others at the table is a form of entertainment. Whether someone wins or loses, paying to play the game can be as entertaining as, say, going to a comedian or musician show for the night. Probably around one third of the people who play are retired, poker provides them social engagement and encourages them to use their minds.

Thank you for your time and I hope you have read this email.

Keith Rivera