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RE: HB 2190 – Opposed

Chair Senator Chuck Riley and Members of the Committee,

I am a small business owner and poker player. My husband and I have had an injection molding company for the last 15 years and know too well the feeling of responsibility to the people we employ. Unfortunately, we also know the feeling of having to eliminate their jobs and take away their livelihood when the economy has affected our sales and we can no longer support paying them. We had only a few employees but if HB 2190 is passed with the amendments being made then the people who will lose their jobs will be far more than just a few.

HB 2190 is being influenced by Out of State interests. In no way should Oregon laws be determined by any state other than the State of Oregon and that is what is happening with HB 2190 when we allow the State of Washington's interests to be more important than Oregon interests.

Yes, there needs to be regulations in regards to poker but HB 2190 is NOT the way to go about it as it appears to be a "quick fix" that fixes nothing and only creates more damage than good.

There is no doubt that we need to work on classifying and defining poker in a way that we can then create regulations and guidelines that will both serve the communities and the State. This can only happen once it is defined correctly. Poker is a social game of *skill*.

Making the amendments in HB 2190 redefining social games and removing the text "*a private business, private club or place of public accommodation*" is thus eliminating the very places that make them social. This not only effects individual rights as a player but will result in many legitimate businesses that have adhered to the ordinances to have to close their doors and jobs will be lost. Waiters, cooks, dishwashers, managers, etc. throughout the State or Oregon will be without an income.

Out of State influence and individual city "compliance issues" should not determine the fate of ALL poker in Oregon and certainly should NOT determine whether someone has a job or not.

This should not be a State issue, this should be a municipal one and should be dealt with on an individual business basis.

In summarization:

- Poker needs to be classified correctly and then appropriate regulations can be put in place.
- Oregon should determine our laws, not another state.

- HB 2190 will result in Oregon jobs being lost.
- HB 2190 is a slippery slope for individual rights.
- Vote NO on HB 2190.

Thank you for your consideration and service to Oregon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janelle Rydell  
Small Business Owner

P.S. Passing HB 2190 will push people from Oregon to Washington casinos and Oregon jobs will be eliminated, undermining our own economy. *Keep Oregon dollars in Oregon.*