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**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

March 9, 2021

Representative Marty Wilde, Chair  
Committee on General Government  
House of Representatives  
Oregon State Capitol

Ref: HB 3078

Chair Wilde, Honorable Colleagues:

House Bill 3078 (HB 3078) is a critical measure. It is not just a sound policy. It is an important step forward in expanding effective oversight and legal controls over the recent actions taken by the Oregon State Lottery. Although the Oregon Lottery Commission was established to provide citizen-oversight, the troubles associated with mobile platform betting through the “Scoreboard” program highlight the need for tighter controls on behalf of the Oregon Legislature.

We must not allow our desires for greater revenues for programs to do good for our people and place, blind us to the undeniable consequences of our actions. Mobile betting is a disaster in waiting. Gaming at institutions that people must enter, and exit is a far different gaming environment than at home: this is especially important during a global pandemic when people are compelled to stay apart from others at the direction of responsible health care policies.

If we fail to pass this measure, we are giving the Lottery a “free-pass” to continue negatively impacting the lives of thousands of our family, friends, and neighbors. We know we have a problem. It is up to us to act or remain complicit in the transition of people who might not otherwise fall into addiction – to become addicted because of the ease of usage provided through mobile platforms. We cannot prevent all bad things from happening. Still, we most assuredly can slow things down and restrain our level of contribution to problem gaming – we do not need to dangle games in front of frustrated, often depressed people for profit.

Please reclaim Legislative authority to protect and defend our constituents. We never need revenue bad enough to justify these past actions; we can always find another pathway forward for the implementation of necessary public policies. I ask you all to support the passage of HB 3078 and settle this issue once and for all.

Respectfully,