

May 12, 2021

Members of the Oregon Legislature -

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony regarding Senate Bill 165.

My wife and our three kids live in St. Helens, and I'd like to give a special thanks to both Sen. Betsy Johnson and Rep. Brad Witt, who have been a strong voice for their constituents over the years, standing up for hard-working families like mine.

I have the special distinction of being the first employee hired to work for Luckii, the online gaming platform now being discussed. As Luckii's Customer Service Manager, it's my job to ensure we maintain positive relationships with the Oregon residents playing our games, helping them with questions they may have and ensuring they have a fun experience while playing.

I'm also responsible for helping to build our team and ensuring we are all well-trained, not just on the games, but in responsible gaming protocols and the strict regulatory requirements, as well. It's similar to the role I had at Portland Meadows before I was forced to look for new employment when that track shut down. There, I spent nearly five years managing the gaming floor, where fans played historic horse racing machines, and I ensured they had a great experience. Whether I'm providing quality customer service on the floor or on the phone, I take great pride in what I do each day.

It's been nearly two years since I learned Portland Meadows was closing, and I was fortunate that an opportunity was almost immediately available to work for ELS Gaming. As I've been personally impacted by the struggles of the horse racing industry, it's exciting to be part of a growing Oregon company that is helping that industry survive.

We're growing a team that cares about our customers. We are proud to be part of a company that has shown its commitment to supporting our community. Each of us enjoys the relationships we've developed not just with each other but with our customers as well. My family and I are incredibly grateful for that opportunity.

When Portland Meadows closed, I wasn't sure how I'd continue to put food on the table or whether we'd continue living in Oregon. Instead, I've had an opportunity to help lead a growing team of Oregon residents – including others left unemployed when Portland Meadows closed.

It is my hope that you remember those of us most impacted by this potential legislation and our need to continue supporting our families, while providing safe and quality service to our customers. I urge you to pass SB 165 without the proposed amendments that would have devastating consequences for my family, my coworkers' families, and horse racing in Oregon.

We truly enjoy being part of a growing Oregon company and hope to be part of its growth for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Sisson
St. Helens, Ore.