



MINNESOTA INDIAN GAMING ASSOCIATION

April 22, 2022

Chairwoman Moran and members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of our 10 tribal nation members, the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association would like to share its position on HF778 (Stephenson) regarding legal sports wagering.

In its current form, HF778 (4th Engrossment) represents a robust stakeholder process in which MIGA tribes participated. This process was initiated by MN legislators who asked tribes to react to a proposal aimed at developing a legal sports betting market. For many months, tribal leaders worked diligently to understand potential impacts of the proposed legislation before considering it as an association and offering initial support.

Through the stakeholder process, Representatives Stephenson and Garofalo (along with others) have crafted a bill that would accomplish the goals of providing a safe, competitive marketplace for Minnesota sports bettors and also would not threaten the viability of tribal gaming in the state. **Therefore, MIGA tribes and their leaders offer their full support for the current version of HF778 and ask the Ways and Means Committee to approve the bill as currently drafted.**

As the illegal market grows here in Minnesota and legal markets increase around us, tribes recognize the need to protect consumers and have chosen to be part of the solution. HF778 recognizes that tribal gaming has an unblemished reputation and expertise and thus entrusts tribes to exclusively operate as sports betting license holders. However, MIGA's opposition to expanded non-tribal commercial gaming remains absolute.

Thank you for your consideration of HF778 and the respectful engagement of sovereign tribal nations on this topic. MIGA and individual tribes will continue monitoring the legislation and will provide an updated position statement if substantial changes are made to the current draft.

Andy Platto

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Platto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Executive Director, MN Indian Gaming Association