



---

225 9th St E Unit 309 • Saint Paul, MN 55101-2514

Office: 651.224.4533

[www.alliedcharitiesmn.org](http://www.alliedcharitiesmn.org)

Fax: 866.240.6160

[alliedcharitiesmn@gmail.com](mailto:alliedcharitiesmn@gmail.com)

(Note New Fax #)

---

***Proudly Serving Charitable Gambling Organizations Throughout Minnesota***

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Dear Charitable Gambling Industry,

In the process of updating our annual ACM Charitable Gambling Fact Sheet this past year we became painfully aware that our charitable contributions had been reduced to below our contributions level in 1986. In 1986, one year after the beginning of charitable gambling in Minnesota, licensed organizations contributed \$44.4 million to their communities (and paid \$8.2 million in charitable gambling taxes). In 2008, these tax exempt/nonprofit organizations contributed \$43.5 million to their communities (and paid \$40.8 million in charitable gambling taxes).

During the 2009 Legislative Session, Allied Charities of Minnesota, along with your help, pushed two initiatives that would have allowed for electronic linked bingo in Minnesota and reduced and simplified Minnesota's extremely onerous charitable gambling tax structure. On average Minnesota charitable gambling organizations pay double the tax rate paid by Minnesota for profit businesses.

We believed that allowing for electronic linked bingo - which basically just combines bingo, electronic bingo devices, and linked bingo games which are all legal under current Minnesota Lawful Gambling Statutes - to be played at our sites would provide a much needed boost in revenues for our organizations (approximately \$54,750 net receipts per site) and would significantly increase our charitable contributions (approximately \$27,375 for lawful purpose expenditures per site).

*Because charitable gambling started with bingo back in the 1940's, we didn't believe this form of gaming should be a threat to our competitors. Unfortunately, largely because one Indian tribe opposed our efforts, we were not successful last session. That is why we are again calling for your help and the help of everyone in your organization/company to be successful this year. **Without the help of you and your organization/company we cannot succeed.***

Allied Charities of Minnesota is renewing and redoubling efforts in the 2010 Legislative Session to pass an electronic linked bingo initiative in conjunction with charitable gambling tax reduction and reform. **We have just introduced HF 3053 and SF 2742 which will allow for electronic linked bingo in Minnesota and reduce and simplify Minnesota's extremely onerous charitable gambling tax structure.**

We have sent a letter and the same background information we are enclosing to you on our proposed legislation to each House and Senate member explaining what we need to survive. We are asking that you follow-up on our letter and personally explain to each of your local House and Senate members why you need this legislation. We are enclosing a list of 2010 Minnesota Legislators for your use.

We are especially concerned with the Senate Committee that oversees gambling and would like you to contact as many of their Committee members as possible to ask for their support of **SF 2742. It is particularly important that you contact Committee members if you live in the area they represent!** Complete Committee information is printed on the back page.

With the increased revenues from electronic linked bingo we will have an opportunity to reduce and reform our extremely onerous charitable gambling tax structure while adding to our bottom line for the programs, projects, and activities we support in virtually every community across this great state. This revised legislation will not only substantially increase funding for donations to the community organizations we help, it will also help simplify the state taxes that charitable gambling organizations pay while remaining revenue neutral to the state general fund.

(over)

We are enclosing a DVD of a presentation made at our recent Convention and Expo which explains how electronic linked bingo will work. We are also enclosing our latest ACM Charitable Gambling Fact Sheet, an Electronic Linked Bingo Q & A Sheet, and our 2010 ACM Electronic Linked Bingo/Tax Bill Proposal for your review.

Please let me know if you have any questions. **Time is short - you must act NOW by contacting the local House and Senate members in your area and push for electronic linked bingo and reduction and reform of our taxes.**

Respectfully,

*King Wilson*  
King Wilson  
Executive Director

P.S. - Non-Members as of 2/21/10 will find an ACM Information/Membership Form and return envelope enclosed.  
**We certainly hope you will consider joining with us at this time.**

---

For 2009-2010 the Senate Committee with jurisdiction over gambling policy issues is the **Senate State and Local Government Operations and Oversight Committee**. Below is complete Committee information:

**State and Local Government Operations and Oversight Committee**

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 205  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606  
651-296-1113

**Regular Meeting Schedule:** Room 123 Capitol, Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:00 - 5:30 p.m.

**Members:** 13

**Chair:** Ann H. Rest\* - New Hope - DFL - 651.296.2889

**Vice Chair:** Tony Lourey\* - Kerrick - DFL - 651.296.0293

**Ranking Minority Member:** Chris Gerlach - Apple Valley - R - 651.296.4120

**Don Betzold\*** - Fridley - DFL - 651.296.2556

**Jim Carlson\*** - Eagan - DFL - 651.297.8073

**Joe Gimse** - Willmar - R - 651.296.3826

**John Marty** - Roseville - DFL - 651.296.5645

**Rick E. Olseen** - Harris - DFL - 651.296.5419

**Sandra L. Pappas** - St. Paul - DFL - 651.296.1802

**Mike Parry** - Waseca - R - 651.296.9457

**Claire A. Robling\*** - Jordan - R - 651.296.4123

**Katie Sieben** - Newport - DFL - 651.297.8060

**Jim Vickerman\*** - Tracy - DFL - 651.296.5650

**Committee Staff**

**Administrator:** Brenda Shafer-Pellinen 651-296-1113

**Legislative Assistant - Chair:** Peter Brickwedde 651-296-2889

**Legislative Assistant - Vice Chair:** Patricia Rooney 651-296-0293

This Committee will have a **Gaming Subcommittee** to deal with gaming bills chaired by **Tony Lourey**.

\* indicates **6 Gaming Subcommittee** members.

**Senate State and Local Government Operations and Oversight Committee Web Site:**

[www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/committees/committee\\_bio.php?cmte\\_id=1026&ls=86](http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/committees/committee_bio.php?cmte_id=1026&ls=86)