



## MINNESOTA INDIAN GAMING ASSOCIATION

March 7, 2022

Chair Mary Kiffmeyer, Senator Karin Housley, and Committee Members,

The Minnesota Indian Gaming Association (MIGA) represents 10 of the 11 federally recognized tribes in Minnesota. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on SF2862. Tribal Leaders have long expressed concern about the rapid evolution of electronic pull tab and bingo games approved by the Minnesota Gambling Control Board (MGCB). We strongly believe state regulators have ignored both the letter and original intent of the 2012 authorizing law. The current games obviously mimic video slot games in violation of the law. We will oppose any legislation that creates an obstacle to bringing the games into compliance with the original intent of the law.

MIGA's standing position seeks a review of current games and the way the MGCB interprets current law. SF2862 would restrict the authority and ability of the MGCB to effectively regulate games through rulemaking, and thus should be opposed by the Senate State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee. Further, the bill is not needed because if the MGCB were to promulgate rules under current law that the Legislature finds to be objectionable, the Legislature can always repeal those rules at any time by changing the law.

Charitable gaming operations serve important functions within our state and are a benefit to many Minnesotans. But gaming laws must be followed and current electronic games clearly have been approved in violation of the legislative compromise that was struck in 2012. Handcuffing the regulatory body in charge of interpreting the law and approving games is a step backwards from finding a resolution to this issue that threatens the economic health of tribal government gaming.

Thank you for your thoughtful review of the policy suggested in SF2862. Tribes and their leaders stand ready to continue conversations about electronic game expansion in search of a satisfactory resolution for both the charities and the Tribes.

Regards,

Keith B. Anderson  
Chairman  
Minnesota Indian Gaming Association