

Madam Chair Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the committee.

Al Lund, Executive Director Allied Charities of MN. We are a 501c6 that represents licensed gaming charities in MN.

Since 2013 the state has increased their return on charitable gaming 2 ½ times more than the charities have.

In FY2017 charities realized an increase of \$1 million mission dollars while the state realized an increase of \$11 million dollars in gambling tax.

In FY2018 the state, bars and manufacturer will realize more of an increase in both percentage and dollars than charities will.

We pay more to the state than we have for our communities and missions.

We are still paying taxes on our donations.

Charities are not against veterans homes, we are against paying for them solely with charitable gaming taxes. The money that is not needed to pay the stadium bonds should be returned to the charities.

Since the Vikings have weighed in on the issue, I will as well. Their answer is to keep the money in the fund and pay off the stadium early. In 2013 the Vikings were worth just over \$1 billion dollars. In 2017 they were valued at \$2.4 billion dollars. Their value has increased over 100 times more than the charities that are footing the bill for the stadium has. Perhaps those benefiting the most need to have their contribution re-examined by the legislature.

ACM would ask that there be some recognition of the contributions made by the charities who are charged with paying for the stadium. HF226 is a bill that would exempt our donations from the gambling tax. We would ask that HF226 be included in the proposal.

Thank you for your time.