

I missed submitting testimony on SB 226 and wanted to briefly share the perspective of someone who lived with a gambler. Gambling can be just as addictive as drugs or alcohol, often bringing the same devastation to individuals and their loved ones. Many who gamble cannot afford it, diverting money from essential household expenses. Allowing a deduction for gambling losses doesn't provide real relief to the addict – it simply puts more money back into gamblers' pockets, where it is likely to be spent on more gambling rather than necessities. Please think twice before advancing this bill out of committee and enabling gambling addiction and the heartache it brings to families.

Regards,

Kari Sue Vosburgh