

Testimony before House Federal & State Affairs Committee

SB 84 – Sports Betting

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Neutral written-only testimony

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on SB 84 and to repeat views expressed by the NFL in testimony before this Committee on Feb. 18, 2021 at the hearing on HB 2199.

As Kansas considers legalizing sports betting in the current legal environment, wherein states are now allowed to offer sports betting, there is no greater priority for the NFL and its clubs than protecting their games and the welfare of their players, coaches and fans.

To protect the integrity of NFL sporting contests and the participants in those events, there are four core standards for sports betting that we continue to ask this committee and the Kansas Legislature to consider:

- 1. A legal regulated sports betting environment with substantial consumer protections;**
- 2. Protection of content and intellectual property, including those who attempt to steal or misuse it;**
- 3. Fan access to official, reliable league data; and**
- 4. Adequate resources, monitoring and enforcement tools necessary for law enforcement to protect fans by eliminating the illegal sports betting marketplace and penalizing bad actors here at home and abroad.**

In reviewing both the House and Senate versions of sports betting enabling legislation, House bill 2199 is most nearly aligned with the NFL’s integrity priorities, compared to SB 84, which doesn’t address or adequately address the key integrity provisions.

The NFL respectfully suggests that any legislation should be geared toward moving illegal sports betting to a legal, regulated market that minimizes potentially harmful impacts on consumers and sporting events. We look forward to working with the Legislature to ensure that any sports betting law ensures the integrity of all aspects of the operation.