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April 26, 2021

The Honorable Mia Costello  
State Capitol Room 119  
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Costello:

I am writing to you today in support of Senate Bill No. 130 "An Act relating to electronic pull-tabs". My company Grover Gaming is one of the largest manufacturers of charitable gaming products including electronic pull-tabs in the United States. We have studied the Alaska charitable gaming industry specifically paper pull-tabs and bingo. Knowing that Governor Dunleavy is developing plans for a state-run lottery and other forms of gaming, charities in Alaska must modernize in order to keep up, because they usually get left out. We complement you as Chair, and the Labor & Commerce Committee, for being forward thinking by introducing Senate Bill No. 130.

*In the times even before the pandemic, charities across the USA have had a difficult time raising revenue for needed services and worthy causes. Charitable bingo and paper pull-tabs have helped raise revenues, but as other forms of entertainment have crept into our lives, charities are having a difficult time competing. Charities need the same opportunities as other industries to modernize and offer new technologies.*

Bingo halls in Alaska and specifically Anchorage (like Tudor Road Bingo and Gold Cache Bingo) have already modernized their bingo games by offering electronic bingo on electronic tablets. This has proven to be successful for bingo. Enhancing paper pull-tabs to also be offered in electronic format will further enhance their offerings to their players.

Many state legislatures in the lower 48 have already approved electronic pull-tabs for their charities. My company provides electronic pull-tab to these states. These states include Virginia, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Idaho. Other states are currently looking at allowing this modernization as well.

Again, I thank you and your committee for introducing this important legislation for Alaska charities. I would be happy to provide information and/or testimony when this bill is up for debate.

Very truly yours,

Scott Henneman  
Vice President  
Business Development and Governmental Affairs



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May 3, 2021

TO: Senate Labor and Commerce Committee  
FR: Sergeant Jeremy Conkling, APDEA President  
RE: SB 130

Senator Costello and Members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

My name is Sergeant Jeremy Conkling, and I am the President of the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association. In my capacity as President, I represent over 570 members of the Anchorage Police Department.

I write to you today to express the APDEA's support of SB 130. The APDEA uses our gaming permit to give to charitable organizations, including the non-profit Anchorage Cops for Community (AC4C). AC4C works to foster and inspire community wellbeing through collaboration between the community and law enforcement. Examples include Shop with a Cop and Firefighter, Clothesline Project, Project Angel Tree, and Coffee with a Cop, just to name a few. Adding an electronic version of pull-tabs will make it less onerous for small businesses to support local charities, including AC4C.

Responsible gaming, such as electronic pull tabs, can help non-profits meet their missions and with respect to AC4C, help to humanize the police in the eyes of their communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergeant Jeremy Conkling  
APDEA President

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## FW: SB 130 Support

Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>

Mon 4/26/2021 1:44 PM

To: Melodie Wilterdink <Melodie.Wilterdink@akleg.gov>

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**From:** Ray Huot <rhuot@whalercasinosupply.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 26, 2021 1:36 PM  
**To:** Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** SB 130 Support

Good Afternoon,

I would like to express my support for SB 130. As an Alaska Licensed Pull Tab distributor, I support modernization and continued growth of Charitable Gaming in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Ray Huot  
Owner

Ray Huot



Casino Supply LLC

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Alaska Gaming Distributor Lic. # 109 | Pulltabs | Bingo | Electronic Bingo

Alaska Veteran owned and operated



**FW: SB 130**

Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>

Mon 5/3/2021 12:25 PM

To: Melodie Wilterdink <Melodie.Wilterdink@akleg.gov>

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**From:** Darwin A. Biwer, Jr. <thndrths@gci.net>

**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 10:51 AM

**To:** Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** SB 130

Mia,

I am in favor of the electronic pullttab bill. this would allow the state to monitor activity and tax it accordingly the way alcohol is taxed in Anchorage to support homelessness and other social problems!

Thanks!!!

- Darwin

**FW: SB130**

Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>

Mon 5/3/2021 12:31 PM

To: Melodie Wilterdink <Melodie.Wilterdink@akleg.gov>

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**From:** koelschkm@gci.net <koelschkm@gci.net>

**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 12:31 PM

**To:** Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** SB130

Senator Mia Costello

Members of the Labor and Commerce committee:

This summer I worked with a local alcohol establishment to setup funding a charity to sell pull tabs to a bar. We worked very long and hard on this project but, unfortunately, were unsuccessful in getting the Art Education charity, which is located in the Juneau Community Foundation, involved because it was too complicated and onerous for the charity and the business even though both supported it.

The way paper pull tabs are currently offered, a charity has a hard time bringing in the physical pull tabs as well as doing the accounting.

Please consider electronic pull tabs so the charity no longer needs to bring paper pull tabs to the bar. The accounting would be much easier for electronic pull tabs and can lower administrative overhead.

(I was also surprised to learn that the administrative overhead can be up to \$30,000 per year to have someone handle the pull tab drop offs and the paperwork.)

Electronic pull tabs definitely would make it easier for the "little guy" charity to have a chance to benefit from pull tabs charity distribution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ken Koelsch  
1586 Evergreen Avenue  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
907-419-7441

## FW: Support SB 130

Senate Labor and Commerce <Senate.Labor.And.Commerce@akleg.gov>

Tue 5/4/2021 9:45 AM

To: Melodie Wilterdink <Melodie.Wilterdink@akleg.gov>

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**From:** joshua lewis <joshua.c.lewis@me.com>

**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 1:28 PM

**To:** Senate Labor and Commerce <Senate.Labor.And.Commerce@akleg.gov>

**Cc:** joshua lewis <joshua.c.lewis@me.com>; Doug McBride <dougmcbride@live.com>

**Subject:** Support SB 130

Good afternoon,

I would like to express my support for SB 130. As an Alaska Licensed Pull Tab operator, I support modernizaon and connued growth of Charitable Gaming in Alaska. This change will allow us to expand the number of Alaska non-profits we support on an annual basis. Additionally, the trend across the industry is to expand to electronic pull tabs - a benefit to all involved.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

Joshua C. Lewis, Operator

[joshua.c.lewis@mac.com](mailto:joshua.c.lewis@mac.com)