

## 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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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



4001 Denali Street, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 230330, Anchorage, AK 99523  
907-561-7500 | [www.apdea.net](http://www.apdea.net)

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

**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)

**From:** [Erin Shine](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for SB 130  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:50:38 PM

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**From:** [mead@treadwellalaska.com](mailto:mead@treadwellalaska.com) <[mead@treadwellalaska.com](mailto:mead@treadwellalaska.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 9, 2021 7:03 PM  
**To:** Sen. Mia Costello <[Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Joshua Lewis' <[joshua.c.lewis@mac.com](mailto:joshua.c.lewis@mac.com)>; [cardinalpointak@gmail.com](mailto:cardinalpointak@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Support for SB 130

To Senator Mia Costello,

As the next committee of referral considers SB 130, authorizing electronic pulltabs, I write to add my support.

I speak for myself, but am a member or past member of the boards of several Alaska charities/501c3 which rely on pull-tab or bingo revenues to support their charitable missions in educational activities. I am also a member of the board of foundations and businesses in Alaska which support a wide variety of charities, and I understand the value that charitable gaming provides in the state, especially to make up for short-falls in state revenues.

My support for SB 130 is based on my view that it is good policy for Alaska to limit gaming to charities. SB 130 allows for growth of this gaming and at the same time helps reduce the important but burdensome accounting necessary in administration of pull-tab operations. It maintains the oversight provided to this activity by the state. If problems were to develop, the Legislature could reverse this opening. Where it has been allowed in other states, it has been helpful.

Thank you for sponsoring this bill, and for your concern for our charitable institutions.

Sincerely, Mead

Mead Treadwell, Owner, Treadwell Development  
Lt. Governor of Alaska, 2010-2014  
[mead@treadwellalaska.com](mailto:mead@treadwellalaska.com)  
Mobile/What'sApp/Signal +1 (907) 223-8128

**From:** [Erin Shine](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SB 130  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:04:52 PM

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**From:** Kevin McKinley <[kevin20320@gmail.com](mailto:kevin20320@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:02 PM  
**To:** Sen. Click Bishop <[Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Bert Stedman <[Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <[Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <[Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov)>; Sen. David Wilson <[Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Donny Olson <[Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Bill Wielechowski <[Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov)>  
**Subject:** SB 130

Dear Senators,

My name is Kevin McKinley and I am writing this letter in support of SB 130 The Electronic Pull Tab Games Bill.

I encourage you to support this bill for the fact that this legislation will expand the Alaska nonprofits that can be served and will provide additional revenue to them and the State Alaska.

Please Pass SB 130 out of committee and bring Alaska into the modern age charitable gaming.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin McKinley



**From:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#)  
**To:** [Doniece Gott](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Electronic gaming  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 8:52:20 AM

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**From:** rossbeal@gci.net <rossbeal@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:46 PM  
**To:** Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Electronic gaming

Senator Bishop –

I'm writing to ask for your support for SB130 concerning electronic gaming in Alaska. Some points I'd like to make:

The bill uses the existing State of Alaska Regs to support AK non- profits.

It promises to expand the number of AK non-profits that can be served  
( possibly 3x more permittees will be served / receive funding due to this improved change )

The change will provide additional revenue to the State....quite possibly raising the net tax revenue from 2mm to as much as 10mm annually. Thank you in advance of your support for this bill.

Ross Beal  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#)  
**To:** [Doniece Gott](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SB130 Support. Alaska Outdoor Council  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 8:52:13 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Rod Arno <rodarno@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 8:22 AM  
To: Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>  
Cc: president@alaskaoutdoorcouncil.com; ed@alaskaoutdoorcouncil.com  
Subject: SB130 Support. Alaska Outdoor Council

Good morning Senator Bishop,

The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) is fully supportive of SB130, please pass the bill out of committee. AOC counts on funding from our gaming permits to keep outdoor folks at the table whenever federal land managers attempt to reduce public access to public resources (fish/game) on federal lands/waters in Alaska.

Thank you,  
Rod Arno  
Alaskan Outdoor Council  
(907) 841-6849

Sent from Rod Arno's iPad.



# Powerhouse Gaming

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May 12, 2021

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in support of Senate Bill 130 which authorizes the sale of electronic pull-tab through electronic pull-tab devices. My name is Mark Newton and I have been involved with charitable gaming since the 1990's first with an electronic bingo manufacturer and now with an electronic pull-tab manufacturer. I assisted with electronic bingo in Alaska and have provided comment on regulations to NAGRA, NIGC, NIGA and numerous states and provinces.

This letter is to encourage your support of this measure as it allows municipalities and organizations to offer an updated version of pull-tabs which will help keep their product offerings relevant to today's consumer, while maintaining all the oversight and control of existing charitable gaming regulation. Electronic pull-tabs have been around for a number of years and have proven to be a boon to those charities utilizing them. The adoption of electronic pull-tabs has also empowered regulatory agencies to conduct real time audits through the computerized central repository of all activity.

Electronic pull-tabs have proven to be successful for the charities operating within the jurisdictions adopting them. Player acceptance of an electronic version has allowed for more participation as the consumers confidence in the game has increased. No longer are new players confused by the complexity of games designed to appeal to more experienced players of paper pull tabs. The concern over inadvertently "throwing away the winner", or otherwise playing the game incorrectly does not exist in the paper version as the device ensures that all winners are paid, and that a full accounting of each deal is obtained. With increased player acceptance the pool of participants is expanded returning pull tab profits to where they have historically been and in some cases exceeding historic levels.

This encourages the adoption of legal forms of gaming by directly competing with grey market operators who offer electronic "skill" and "sweepstakes" systems that skirt state law and are exempt from taxation. These operators are brazen and currently operate alongside legitimate organizations siphoning off their much-needed revenues. Charitable Gaming is under attack like never before and this tool will help in that fight.

In addition to the increased revenues realized by charitable operators' electronic pull-tab systems allow for complete record keeping for organizational and state audits. The operation of paper pull-tabs requires rigorous oversight given the opportunity of mistakes occurring in the literally millions of manual transactions. Whether these are honest mistakes such as miscounting the tickets purchased or paying a prize in error or acts of deceit designed to cheat the system such as fraudulent tickets being redeemed or the theft of entire deals of tickets, they are all eliminated using computers. Each and every pull-tab is tracked at every stage from manufacture through consumption and every dollar is accounted for. These systems are independently verified to be secure and robust, and remotely accessible to state auditors.

Electronic pull-tabs are not, in and of themselves, a panacea for charitable gaming, but offered as a choice within the existing regulatory framework they will be one more tool at the disposal of Alaskan charities to continue their good works, especially while they are recovering from Covid-19's economic impact.

For these reasons I encourage you to adopt SB 130

Respectfully,

**Mark Newton**, Vice-President  
Powerhouse Gaming, Inc.