

Comment Report

HF 2548

A bill for an act appropriating certain tax receipts concerning internet fantasy sports contests and sports wagering to the county endowment fund and for gambling treatment programs.(Formerly HF 2286, HSB 614; See HF 2566.)

Subcommittee Members: Bossman-CH, Hall, Meyer, A.

Date: 03/10/2022

Time: 08:15 AM

Location: House Lounge

Name: Brian Carter

Comment: I am Brian Carter a lobbyist for the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church, and we are registered as opposed to HF254. Gambling is a threat to personal character and social morality. I know that this bill does not increase gambling directly, but by making the receipts from gambling more acceptable, it seems it is an attempt to sooth our consciences for having enacted a type of gambling that preys on young people especially those under age 26. Jesus told a story about a rich man and dives, a poor man who begged at his front door. They both died and the poor man went to the comfort of heaven, the rich man to the torment of hell. The stories moral was that he went to hell because he did not help Dives when he had a chance. It appears that this bill is an attempt to help Dives after it is too late he is addicted to gambling and probably lost his money, and maybe his college degree, and lost his family and friends. How many young people are we willing to sacrafice to gambling? You know that sports better and fantasy sports betting leads to problem gambling. Why did you vote for it? Shame on you if you did. Don't think this bill absolves you.