STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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JEFF PITTMAN

Feb 5, 2019

Chairman Clark and to the rest of the House Veterans committee--

I urge you to vote yes and pass HB2037 out of committee after due consideration. Rep Gartner and I put this bill together last year after listening to testimony from the Veteran's Commission, the State Lottery and the Kansas National Guard. While the bill passed out of committee last year, it did not get through the entire process to become a statute. We were able to arrange for similar language to be put in place in a proviso that was put successfully in the Appropriations budget that was eventually passed. However that will only last two years, so we are pushing to make this arrangement more permanent.

The lottery already has rules in place about placing money towards various veteran and National Guard allocations; however the percentage breakdown is based on a variable total amount that comes from purpose designed veteran dedicated lottery tickets. There had been a lot of consternation about details of which lottery tickets were placed where on behalf of veterans. This bill allows Lottery officials to do the job they know how to do which is design lottery tickets and maximize revenues by responding to trends, price points and changes in distribution/shelf space that they monitor on an ongoing basis.

Therefore instead of having a variable total transfer from the Lottery that is hard to budget around, this bill sets an agreed upon amount that will grow by a set percentage each year, allowing recipient organizations more solid budgeting and more efficient use of resources, while it allows the Lottery to best plan it's ticket offering with maximum success.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Rep Jeff Pittman (Co-signed by Rep Jim Gartner, HD 53)

Leavenworth, KS HD #41