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Michigan United Conservation Clubs



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Conserving, Enhancing and Protecting Michigan's Natural Resources and Outdoors Heritage since 1937.

May 14, 2014

Dear Chairman Crawford and members of the Committee on Regulatory Reform:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in regards to Senate Bill 878. On behalf of our 40,000 members and 250 clubs statewide, Michigan United Conservation Clubs supports the passage of this bill.

The lack of certainty that currently exists among charitable gaming is of large concern to the Michigan sportsmen's community who utilize the millionaire parties. SB 878 gives the MGCB more regulatory power over the industry: all the while establishing a clear set of rules that won't devastate an organizations ability to raise money. This bill would:

- Licenses location owners who services charities;
- allow rooms to be open 7 days a week;
- allow 3 charities a day at one location, and;
- provide that only two charity members would need to be on site during an event.

Sportsmen's clubs provide many assets to the local communities including youth conservation education, free range time for local police officers, hunter's safety classes, habitat work, youth archery classes, free places for veterans to socialize, hunting and fishing opportunities for wounded veterans and terminally ill youth and many others. The funding from millionaire party fundraisers is critical to being able to provide these services.

MUCC and its members believe that SB 878 is a fair compromise that will give our clubs the ability to continue to fund raise while also cutting down on the corruption that has been found in some areas.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment and we urge your support of SB 878.

Sincerely,

Erin McDonough
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