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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GAMING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING

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MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019
12:05 P.M.

PRESENTATION ON
CHARITABLE 50/50 RAFFLE LEGISLATION

BEFORE:

HONORABLE JIM MARSHALL, MAJORITY CHAIRMAN
HONORABLE DONALD COOK
HONORABLE GARY DAY
HONORABLE RUSS DIAMOND
HONORABLE GEORGE DUNBAR
HONORABLE FRANK A. FARRY
HONORABLE JOSHUA KAIL
HONORABLE AARON KAUFER
HONORABLE THOMAS MEHAFFIE
HONORABLE TIM O'NEAL
HONORABLE CHRIS QUINN
HONORABLE JUSTIN WALSH
HONORABLE SCOTT CONKLIN, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN
HONORABLE ANITA KULIK
HONORABLE BRANDON MARKOSEK
HONORABLE JEANNE MCNEILL
HONORABLE ED NEILSON

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*Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

I N D E X

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SUBMITTED WRITTEN TESTIMONY

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(See submitted written testimony and handouts online.)

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Good afternoon. I'd
4 like to call this public hearing of the House Gaming
5 Oversight Committee to order. Nancy, will you please take
6 the roll?

7
8 (Roll was taken.)

9
10 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Thanks, Nancy.
11 This afternoon, we are going to focus on House
12 Bill 826, which would create a freestanding act that would
13 allow nonprofits affiliated with major-league and
14 collegiate teams to conduct 50/50 drawings for charity at
15 home games.

16 Chairman Conklin, do you have any opening
17 remarks?

18 DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN CONKLIN: No, I'm good.
19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Thank you then. I
21 would like to invite today's first panel of speakers to
22 come forward. We have Kevin Acklin, the General Counsel
23 for the Pittsburgh Penguins; and Brian Stroh is the Senior
24 Vice President of Business Affairs and General Counsel for
25 the Pittsburgh Pirates. Thank you both for participating,

1 and you may begin.

2 MR. ACKLIN: Good afternoon, Chairman Marshall,
3 Chairman Conklin, distinguished Members of the Committee.
4 My name is Kevin Acklin, and I'm very honored to be here
5 today representing the Pittsburgh Penguins, where I
6 currently serve as Senior Vice President and General
7 Counsel and also Member of the Board of Directors of the
8 Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation.

9 On behalf of our principal owners Mario Lemieux
10 and Ron Burkle, our President and CEO David Morehouse, our
11 General Manager Jim Rutherford, and our players, coaches,
12 staff and fans, we thank you for your leadership in
13 considering this important legislation which we believe
14 will improve our charitable impact on the community.

15 The Penguins Foundation is at the core of our
16 mission to be the best franchise in sports and is the
17 primary vehicle through which we partner with and improve
18 our impact on the Pittsburgh community. For example, with
19 the very tragic shooting last October at the Tree of Life
20 synagogue in Pittsburgh, the Penguins Foundation joined
21 with the Steelers and Pirates Charities to support our city
22 during its darkest days. Our Captain Sidney Crosby helped
23 design a patch for players to wear in a home game just days
24 after the tragedy to show the world that Pittsburgh is and
25 remains "Stronger than Hate."

1 In just a very few weeks, sales of these patches
2 generated almost \$700,000 in charitable support, which was
3 directed to the victims and families fund at the Jewish
4 Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and to a public safety
5 fund with the city of Pittsburgh, to honor the sacrifices
6 of our public safety heroes.

7 The 50/50 raffle is conducted at every Pittsburgh
8 Penguins home game at PPG Paints Arena with proceeds
9 funding grants to eligible local 501(c)(3) charities who
10 share our foundation's mission. Through our online grant
11 application process, local charities are selected to
12 receive these monies to benefit their programs. Over \$1.1
13 million in total donations were made during the 2017-2018
14 season thanks to our 50/50 raffle. Foundation grants
15 typically range on average from \$1,000 to \$20,000, and our
16 focus is on helping smaller, grassroots organizations.
17 Over the past six seasons, the Penguins Foundation has
18 donated over \$5 million to more than 150 unique local
19 charities in the greater Pittsburgh community due to the
20 tremendous game-day support of our fans.

21 With the proceeds of our 50/50 raffle and our
22 charitable fundraising efforts at the Penguins Foundation,
23 we build community rinks in neighborhoods where kids have
24 limited opportunities to play the sport. We support
25 equipment, training, and programming for youth to learn the

1 game of ice hockey. We support research to cure childhood
2 diseases, we invest in educational programs to promote
3 reading in schools, investing in STEAM education and
4 library programming, and we support smaller nonprofits
5 working to improve peoples' lives in our communities. With
6 the continued success of the 50/50 raffle, the Penguins are
7 able to expand and deepen our impact on Pittsburgh.

8 And while the 50/50 raffle is the backbone of the
9 Penguins Foundation's charitable efforts, conducting the
10 raffle exclusively on a cash basis poses some significant
11 challenges. As consumer spending patterns change in line
12 with an increasingly cashless economy, we are finding that
13 fans rely more heavily on debit and credit cards to make
14 ticket, food and beverage, and merchandise purchases at our
15 games. While we take significant measures to assure the
16 safety of our ticket sellers, there are constant security
17 risks to sellers carrying around significant amounts of
18 cash in a crowded arena environment. And while we have
19 never had an issue, and our 50/50 raffle process is audited
20 on an annual basis by an outside audit firm, an exclusive
21 cash raffle is more at risk for fraud and abuse.

22 The ultimate legislative intent of the original
23 50/50 raffle legislation enacted back in 2012 was to
24 empower professional sports teams to play a stronger role
25 in being a positive force for charitable investments in our

1 community. By allowing fans to use credit cards and debit
2 cards when purchasing 50/50 chances, we believe you will
3 dramatically impact our capacity to expand our current
4 community impact. In addition, you will improve consumer
5 convenience and reduce the risks of theft, fraud, and abuse
6 that are more at risk under an exclusive cash system.

7 On behalf of the Pittsburgh Penguins, we
8 respectfully encourage your support of this legislation.
9 We thank you for your leadership and your service and look
10 forward to continuing to work with you in the future as we
11 continue to inspire and support our communities. Thank
12 you.

13 MR. STROH: Good afternoon, Chairman Marshall,
14 Chairman Conklin, Members of the Committee. On behalf of
15 Pirates' owner Robert Nutting, our team President Frank
16 Coonelly, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Patty
17 Salerno, the entire Pittsburgh Pirates organization. I'd
18 like to thank you for allowing me to speak with you today.
19 My name is Bryan Stroh. I am the Senior Vice President of
20 Business Affairs and the General Counsel for the Pittsburgh
21 Pirates. I also serve as the Assistant Secretary for our
22 501(c)(3) affiliated nonprofit Pirates Charities.

23 When asked why we do what we do, people who work
24 for the Pirates like to say that we try to change lives
25 through Pirates baseball. It seems audacious, it seems

1 inspiration, but there can be no question that the funds
2 raised by the Pirates Charities 50/50 raffle have
3 positively impacted lives across our State, across our
4 country and world.

5 We have used funds from the Pirates Charities
6 50/50 raffle to build baseball fields in Beaver County, we
7 have used them to educate people in the Dominican Republic,
8 and we have used them to support veterans' leadership
9 programs back home in our city of Pittsburgh.

10 The Pirates are very proud to have been part of
11 the legislative process that led to the changes in the
12 Small Games of Chance Act, which in turn led to the first
13 50/50 raffles in the State of Pennsylvania back in 2013,
14 and since 2013, raffles at PNC Park have raised nearly \$4
15 million for numerous charitable organizations and causes.
16 In 2018 alone we completed over 77,000 individual sales of
17 transactions for raffles, and we raised over \$400,000 for
18 Pirates Charities and other local charities.

19 On some nights, Pirates Charities designates a
20 specific charity announced during the game where the
21 proceeds of the raffle will go to that charity ahead of
22 time. For example, during our Military Thursday
23 Appreciation Games last year, each 50/50 raffle proceed
24 amount goes to an organization supporting veterans. Last
25 year, it included It's About the Warrior, Heroes Supporting

1 Heroes, Operation Troop Appreciation, and the Defenders of
2 Freedom Pittsburgh.

3 On other nights, Pirates Charities uses the
4 proceeds from the 50/50 raffles for various ongoing
5 charitable activities consistent with the Pirates
6 Charities' mission such as youth baseball and education
7 programs for underserved youth and also cancer research and
8 support groups. In fact, in 2018 alone the 50/50 raffle
9 proceeds accounted for nearly 40 percent of the money
10 raised by Pirates Charities during that year.

11 And just as we were proud to help introduce these
12 raffles to fans in 2013, we are now proud to be part of
13 this conversation to help expand the impact of 50/50
14 raffles by allowing fans to use credit and debit cards
15 while purchasing raffle tickets.

16 The 50/50 raffle at Pirates games has become an
17 integral part to many of our fans' game-day experiences.
18 Many fans are consistent repeat customers, and they buy
19 from the same seller in the same location each night. I'm
20 told, by the way, that the copy of my testimony may have
21 missed a second page. I'm happy to get that to you after
22 the testimony here.

23 Many fans tell us, though, that 50/50 raffle is
24 their most dedicated and consistent form of charitable
25 giving, and it provides them a convenient way to give when

1 they might not otherwise take the time to research causes
2 if they were doing so on their own.

3 And so we like to say that, in sum, our raffle
4 helps create a culture of giving at PNC Park where
5 literally every night we are partnering with our fans on a
6 nightly basis to improve our shared community. So we
7 believe allowing the use of credit and debit cards will
8 help grow this culture of giving and broaden the impact of
9 the 50/50 raffles both in terms of increasing the total
10 amount raised and also expanding the pool of participants.

11 I'd like to just offer three points for your
12 consideration today. First, and most broadly, the Pirates
13 want to make it as easy as possible for all of our fans to
14 join us in donating to a charity on a nightly basis. As
15 the habits of our fans evolve and as certain of our fans,
16 often our younger fans, live their lives with very little
17 or no cash in their pockets, we do not want the decision
18 about participating in the raffle and participating in
19 raising money for a charity to be driven solely by how we
20 accept funds.

21 The second point I'd like to make to you is that
22 one of our goals as an organization, like most
23 organizations, is to listen to our fans and to be
24 responsive to the feedback that we get from them. Our
25 participants and our fans tell us consistently that they

1 wish we offered credit cards and debit cards. They tell us
2 that not only doing so would allow them to not carry as
3 much cash, as I mentioned, but our fans have somewhat
4 expected to be able to live their lives at PNC Park without
5 cash. You can buy hot dogs with a credit card, you can buy
6 tickets with a credit card, you can buy t-shirts with a
7 credit card. You can do everything else at PNC Park
8 without cash. And then when it comes time for our raffle
9 sellers to walk around and ask if they'd like to contribute
10 to the 50/50 raffle, some people can't do that. Allowing
11 fans to purchase their tickets with a credit or debit card
12 would create more consistency across the ballpark and
13 ensure that we never exclude those fans who wants to
14 participate in those raffles.

15 And the final point I want to leave you with is
16 that we've been informed from our colleagues in other
17 teams, in other sports, and in other States who do accept
18 credit cards and debit cards, that limiting sales to cash
19 payments also limits the amount that some of our fans will
20 spend on raffle tickets. To give you an idea, most teams
21 that accept credit cards see an increase of between 30 and
22 50 percent per transaction when being given the choice of
23 spending with credit cards versus cash. At the end of the
24 day, that's more money for the Pirates to use and with our
25 charitable partners to build baseball fields, to educate

1 our youth, and to empower veterans.

2 Taken together, we believe that we will be able
3 to impact more lives and impact those lives with greater
4 depth if we are able to accept credit and debit cards with
5 our 50/50 raffles. We believe this amendment will help
6 grow the culture of giving at PNC Park and help the Pirates
7 and our fans change our lives in the area for the better.

8 We thank you very much for your consideration
9 here and for allowing me the opportunity to be here.

10 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Thank you,
11 gentlemen, for your fantastic testimony, and I appreciate
12 the support, the charitable donations that your
13 organizations and fans are making.

14 I'd like to note that some of our Members will be
15 coming in later and leaving earlier, that many have
16 different meetings throughout the building. And I would
17 note that we have been joined by Representative Day.

18 We have some questions from Members, and we will
19 start with Representative Neilson.

20 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 It's not so much questions. Thank you, gentlemen, for
22 testifying today. Just a little comment about the good
23 work you do because having five kids, my children were
24 actually a benefit of a foundation like yourself. Of
25 course I don't want to say that, you know, Philadelphia

1 rules, but Philadelphia rules. My kids learned how to play
2 hockey and learned how to skate through the Ed Snider
3 Foundation, the same great program that you spoke about
4 here today. Now, of course, I have no pros. I had one
5 hockey player out of five, and I have three other ones that
6 were baseball players, so, I mean, I'm not a person -- but
7 I just think it's great the work you do in the community,
8 and I want to put that on the record.

9 Today's bill we're talking today also expands
10 [inaudible] into those fields as well?

11 MR. ACKLIN: Representative, first and foremost,
12 I want to say that the Philadelphia model of youth hockey
13 in Philadelphia, the Flyers program is the model that we
14 intended to replicate. Jim Britt works for us in hockey
15 operations. It was his father that worked with the team
16 and put that together. And there's a significant effort
17 underway within the Penguins Foundation to invest in a
18 facility in the city of Pittsburgh that would allow us to
19 bring more programming opportunities for kids in
20 neighborhoods who may not have parents that can drive them
21 20 minutes to suburban rinks, to be the home base for girls
22 hockey. And so we're looking to diversify the sport, and a
23 lot of what Philadelphia has done is something that we're
24 going to look at.

25 Now, if you asked me to say that outside this

1 room, I'll deny it, but truthfully, the Flyers have a good
2 model for community engagement on hockey.

3 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Well, you know, Ed
4 Snider was just all about that, and he's passed that down.

5 MR. ACKLIN: And that's something that we're
6 looking --

7 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: I mean, kids never
8 skated before in their life and they give you the skates,
9 they give you everything you need to get on there, which is
10 great.

11 MR. ACKLIN: And we're looking to do that in
12 Pittsburgh, and a lot of the fundraising activity that
13 we're programming through the 50/50 proceeds and otherwise
14 are going to be directed to doing that in Pittsburgh.

15 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Great.

16 MR. ACKLIN: And just to weigh in on the
17 question, I think, you know, it's been such a positive
18 model for us. You know, the Steelers aren't here today,
19 but I know they submitted a letter --

20 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: The who?

21 MALE SPEAKER: Easy.

22 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: It really hurts being
23 the only --

24 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Thank you,
25 Representative. Thank you, Representative Neilson.

1 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: -- you know, the only
2 Philadelphia up here just so we're clear, okay?

3 MR. ACKLIN: It's worked so well for us, and I
4 think if other universities had the ability to have more
5 dramatic impact across the Commonwealth, you know, I think
6 I would be a voice of support for extending that and
7 empowering the universities to be a part of this.

8 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Thank you.

9 MR. STROH: Representative, I guess our
10 perspective is that the more that fans can expect to think
11 about charitable donations and raffles when they go to any
12 event, then the more of a culture we have built together,
13 so we would fully be in support of our friends at the
14 colleges and universities and State running these kinds of
15 raffles.

16 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: And as far as the
17 technology is concerned, you're spot on because, I mean, I
18 attend games and we tend not to have money in our pocket
19 ever, and it becomes an issue.

20 Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, gentlemen.

21 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: I believe
22 Representative Neilson's finished now, so I would like to
23 take this --

24 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: I'd like a second round.

25 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: -- opportunity to

1 say there won't be any second rounds for Representative
2 Neilson and that today's hearing is audio and video
3 recorded for a later broadcast, so keep that in mind.

4 Next, we have Representative Diamond.

5 REPRESENTATIVE DIAMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
6 and thank you, Representative Neilson, for probably finding
7 the only reason why this Committee would be divided.

8 I want to thank both of you gentlemen for the
9 testimony and for your efforts on behalf of your respective
10 foundations. I happen to believe that even more so than
11 big employers in our areas, our professional sports teams
12 probably do a lot for community, you know, togetherness and
13 unity and that sort of thing, and you've both given some
14 great examples. I want to thank you for elaborating on the
15 point about the additional revenue your foundations would
16 be able to put into the communities from the debit card
17 usage. That was actually going to be one of my questions
18 is, you know, across your leagues in other States what are
19 other teams seeing, so I appreciate that information.

20 I did just want to clarify just because we are
21 dealing with public policy here and, you know, laws, all
22 the contributions that your foundations do make, they are a
23 matter of public record?

24 MR. ACKLIN: Yes, sir.

25 REPRESENTATIVE DIAMOND: Okay. Thank you so

1 much. I appreciate it.

2 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Representative Day.

3 REPRESENTATIVE DAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
4 thank you for your testimony today. I think it's very
5 compelling and great information for us moving forward with
6 this legislation.

7 I was curious; do you happen to know how many
8 grants or dollar amount that you guys have put toward our
9 first responders or volunteer first responders as well?

10 MR. ACKLIN: I can answer that at least from the
11 Penguins. This past year alone we issued a \$250,000 grant
12 to the city of Pittsburgh, which resulted from the
13 fundraising activities that we did from, you know, the
14 patch, which we did, and that was directed toward a public
15 safety fund, which went not just to police and fire but EMS
16 from a regional approach. And so that's just in the last
17 year.

18 We're also directing contributions to a fund
19 impacting the officers that were shot and hurt, and so just
20 with respect to the incident that unfortunately happened.
21 But generally over the years we've been supportive of our
22 first responders and officers through providing tickets to
23 games and having them be involved. In my time with the
24 team just over the last year, those are the numbers that
25 we've invested in our officers and first responders.

1 REPRESENTATIVE DAY: So just as a small follow-up
2 to qualify a little bit better my question, the \$250,000,
3 that was the Stop the Hate and that was toward kind of
4 being part of the response to what had happened in
5 Pittsburgh.

6 MR. ACKLIN: Correct.

7 REPRESENTATIVE DAY: So to qualify it and maybe
8 drill down a little bit more, so that's for the city of
9 Pittsburgh. What about the more rural communities that
10 might have volunteer fire companies and things like that?
11 Were you able to give grants to any of those that you can
12 recall?

13 MR. ACKLIN: I could say from our efforts here we
14 created a fund at the city -- well, we contributed to a
15 fund at the city that was meant to be a broader array, and
16 how those monies are distributed would be subject to their
17 efforts. Our application for a 50/50 program is an online
18 application for that, so we would encourage, you know,
19 surrounding communities because, you know, sort of Penguins
20 Nation is broader than the bounds of the city of
21 Pittsburgh, so we would invite smaller -- you know, we know
22 the challenges of public funding for first responders are
23 constantly there. We would like to be a better partner.

24 Of the numbers ahead of me, I can provide those
25 to you as to what we've done in the past, but it is a

1 voluntary program. We would encourage first responders
2 from around, you know, southwestern Pennsylvania and
3 beyond, you know, to seek us as support.

4 REPRESENTATIVE DAY: Would you have any problems
5 if our body chose to direct a percentage of your proceeds
6 to a particular -- maybe a State fund or, you know, first
7 responders or something like that? Would you have a
8 problem with that?

9 MR. ACKLIN: I personally wouldn't have any
10 objection.

11 REPRESENTATIVE DAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
12 thank you both for your comments and your answers. Thanks.

13 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Thank you, Mr.
14 Acklin and Mr. Stroh. I appreciate you coming out from the
15 city of champions to being here today.

16 MR. ACKLIN: Thank you.

17 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: And we'll go with
18 our next testifier.

19 MR. ACKLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: I'd like to
21 invite --

22 MALE SPEAKER: Remember, we're on TV, Russ.

23 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: If the Committee
24 would agree, I would like to invite the next speaker to
25 come forward and provide testimony. Jeremy Wang is the

1 Associate Vice President for the Institutional Advancement
2 at Temple University. Thank you for participating in
3 today's meeting.

4 MR. WANG: Thank you for having me here today.

5 Good afternoon, Chairman Marshall, Chairman
6 Conklin, the Members of the House Gaming Oversight
7 Committee. My name is Jeremy Wang, and I'm the Associate
8 Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Temple
9 University. I'm here today at your invitation to offer
10 testimony on behalf of Temple University as it relates to
11 H.B. 826. And so on behalf of Temple University, its
12 leadership, I'd like to offer this statement and copies
13 that I know Mr. Lynch will provide with you in a written
14 form as well in support of H.B. 826 with the proposed
15 amendments.

16 At Temple we have a proud tradition of supporting
17 our student-athletes. We consider these young men and
18 women to be just that, students first and then athletes
19 second. Our student-athletes have achieved significant
20 academic status amongst their peers in the NCAA. One of
21 the metrics that the NCAA uses is the academic progress
22 rate, of which the scores that Temple student-athletes have
23 achieved are the highest in the American Athletic
24 Conference.

25 In addition to this, our student-athletes have

1 had 14 consecutive semesters or seven straight years of
2 GPAs over a 3.0 or higher while enrolled and pursuing 85
3 different majors in fields of study at Temple University.
4 That pursuit of academic excellence and achievement is
5 always first in our mind at Temple.

6 As a nonprofit institution itself, Temple
7 University is always looking for ways to generate more
8 revenue in order to support our tremendous student body.
9 Temple's continued rise as an economic engine in
10 Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is only
11 matched by our commitment to developing and educating our
12 growing student body. A subset of this student body is
13 those athletes I just described to you. They represent
14 Temple University so well in competition and in the
15 classroom, as I just mentioned. Their collegiate education
16 and experience are unique as they benefit from life lessons
17 in sport, as well as a quality education in the classroom.

18 The adoption of this bill would provide the
19 university with an opportunity for additional revenue to
20 support our student-athletes by placing revenue generated
21 through 50/50 raffles at our sporting events into our Owl
22 Club Annual Fund, which is our athletics annual fund. And
23 this fund we utilize at Temple University to support and
24 maintain the level of excellence which I just described,
25 while continuing to look forward to investing in programs

1 that would enhance the student-athlete experience. By
2 investing in these enhanced services, we're talking about
3 areas that include increased academic and leadership
4 training, access to mental health services and nutritional
5 and food security programs for our athletes. We're
6 honoring our commitment to providing a peerless student-
7 athlete experience, while developing future leaders for the
8 Commonwealth, the State of Pennsylvania and the world as
9 well.

10 We estimate that 50/50 raffles at Temple sporting
11 events could generate approximately \$150,000 in additional
12 revenue to help us support these initiatives and support
13 our young people.

14 Currently, the university does hold a small game
15 of chance license to raffle off specific prizes. Passing
16 this legislation would allow us to expand on that license
17 and utilize practices that are done by the professional
18 teams in Philadelphia and, as you just heard from my
19 colleagues, with the Penguins and the Pirates.

20 I thank you for this opportunity to appear before
21 you and look forward to any questions you may have.

22 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Representative
23 Dunbar.

24 REPRESENTATIVE DUNBAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25 Briefly, you had stated 150 grand you estimated.

1 Is that an annual number or a -- you said you had raised
2 about \$150,000 for charity. Is that throughout the course
3 of a year or is that --

4 MR. WANG: That's correct. Yes, sir. That would
5 be throughout the course of a year.

6 REPRESENTATIVE DUNBAR: Because I could just
7 imagine at a Penn State game with 110,000 people, they
8 could raise that in one event, but maybe we can eliminate
9 the fund completely. So that's an annual number. And
10 what's your average attendance at like a football game for
11 Temple?

12 MR. WANG: Football game, average attendance is
13 between 25 and 30,000, and then home basketball games is
14 between five and eight.

15 REPRESENTATIVE DUNBAR: Thank you.

16 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Representative
17 Neilson.

18 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Thank you, Chairman.

19 So this 50/50 raffle will only go to the athletic
20 department? Is that what I'm understanding?

21 MR. WANG: That's what we would prefer it would
22 go to is to support the student-athletes and those
23 nonathletic but those academic life skills, mental health,
24 nutrition initiatives that are our responsibility towards
25 them as student-athletes.

1 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: And you're a 501(c)(3)
2 as a whole, correct?

3 MR. WANG: Correct.

4 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: So whereas the sports,
5 the teams, they have to give to a 501(c)(3). You are
6 actually qualified as a 501(c)(3), as are most State-
7 related colleges within the legislation is -- I'm just
8 making sure I understand it.

9 MR. WANG: That's correct.

10 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Earlier there was a
11 question about disclosure of funds. Will you be willing to
12 disclose these funds publicly as well, where you spend
13 these funds?

14 MR. WANG: Yes, absolutely.

15 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Thank you, Chairman.
16 That's it. Thank you for your testimony today. Thanks for
17 taking care of my kid on the record.

18 MR. WANG: You're welcome.

19 REPRESENTATIVE NEILSON: Though he's not a sports
20 player.

21 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Okay. That's all
22 the questions we have today. I would like to note that you
23 have with you today our former colleague and good
24 representative of Temple, George Kenney. Thank you very
25 much for being here.

1 MR. WANG: Thank you.

2 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Okay. Chairman
3 Conklin?

4 DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN CONKLIN: He did a great job.
5 I'll let you wrap it up.

6 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN MARSHALL: Okay. Well, thank
7 you, Chairman.

8 I appreciate the attendance today from Members of
9 both sides. I look forward to having the meeting tomorrow,
10 which will be a voting meeting for House Bill 826 at the
11 call of the Chair, and it'll be in this room, G-50, Irvis.

12 Thank you. This meeting is adjourned.

13

14 (The hearing concluded at 12:35 p.m.)

1 I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings
2 are a true and accurate transcription produced from audio
3 on the said proceedings and that this is a correct
4 transcript of the same.

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