

I am Carroll H. Hynson, Jr., President of Image Power, Inc., a certified minority business company. We are one of the first minorities in Maryland contracted by three casinos for startup/continued service and currently servicing 70 or more Fleet reserves, American Legions, and VFWs in the state. I was also the first African American Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Lottery for over fifteen years before starting my company in 2009.

I am opposed to the Senate Bill 0565 because its passing would cause a decrease in employee population, including minority employees, minority businesses and negatively affect the 850-million-dollar tax revenue contribution by the casinos annually.

Finally, I-Gaming could increase gambling addiction for young people who are underage who are already consumed with cellphone usage. Some early surveys indicate 14% of Maryland High School students have already gambled according to the Maryland Alliance for Responsible Gaming. I-Gaming would give added ammunition to this problem by providing unsupervised usage for our youth.

In conclusion, how could we monitor underage participation with I-Gaming. Our state is doing well currently without I-Gaming, why jeopardize our current positive revenues in the State of Maryland.

Thank you for your attention concerning this legislation.