

support of S. 474 on June 25, 1991, in our Patent, Copyrights, and Trademarks Subcommittee. His words are worth noting. He said:

We do not want our games used as bait to sell gambling. We should not gamble with our children's heroes.

Commissioner Tagliabue noted that, in order to avert violations of current Federal law prohibiting the fixing of sporting contests, or attempts to fix sporting contests, the NFL bars anyone connected with the NFL from gambling on NFL games or associating with gamblers.

"Legalized sports gambling threatens all that we have worked for in this respect—and more." He then listed four basic reasons to oppose the spread of legalized sports gambling:

First, sports gambling threatens the characters of team sports. Instead of standing for healthy competition through teamwork and honest preparation, professional sports contests "will come to represent the fast buck, the quick fix, the desire to get something for nothing."

Second, sports gambling undermines the integrity of team sports and public confidence in such sports. "Sports lotteries inevitably foster a climate of suspicion about controversial plays and intensify cynicism with respect to player performances, coaching decisions, officiating calls and game results." Some fans who bet on losing teams will assume the fix was in.

Third, "legalized sports gambling sends a terrible message to youth." Perceptions of athletes are diminished in young minds if they are reduced in stature by being participants, however unwilling, in gambling schemes. State-sponsored sports gambling sends a message to our young people that raising revenue is more important than moral standards.

Finally, Commissioner Tagliabue said, legalizing gambling will encourage gambling by our Nation's youth. Commissioner Tagliabue cited a comment by Dr. Valerie Lorenz, executive director of the National Center for Pathological Gambling, that the increase in gambling by teenagers is linked to the increase in the spread of State lotteries in general. Dr. Lorenz said: "The message they're conveying is that gambling is not a vice but a normal form of entertainment." Indeed, Dr. Lorenz, who is also cochair of the task force on gambling addiction of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and director of the Forensic Center for Compulsive Gambling, also testified before our subcommittee. She said:

[This bill] without doubt, [is] the most positive piece of legislation I have seen in Federal or State government in recent years from the standpoint of stemming compulsive gambling, especially among young people.

She testified that gambling among our Nation's youth has been alarmingly on the rise.

We believe that the spread of State lotteries in the past 20 years has contributed significantly to this problem. For states to establish sports lotteries or to legalize other forms of sports gambling would be to take a bad situation and make it even worse. Many of the victims would be our children.

She said that gambling has become more widespread in our society.

Particularly alarming is the preponderance of younger gamblers—those in their early twenties or thirties—who are now addicted and the rise of gambling, among young single men * * *. The growth of State lotteries undoubtedly has played a significant role in the rise of teenage gambling.

State sports lotteries will lead to a further increase in teenage gambling because our young people are attracted to sports activities.

Mr. President, I could go on. But the bottom line is this: sports gambling is bad for the country. It is bad for our young people. It is bad for everybody. We ought to pass this bill overwhelmingly and send it to the President.

I remember a number of years ago where a nuclear scientist was a member of my faith and of my church, but he was a compulsive gambler. He made a whopping amount of money for that time and place. He loved his wife and children, but he could not control his compulsive gambling. Even though he made more money than anybody in our congregation or anybody that I know of, he was always broke and his family was always destitute because of his compulsive gambling. Magnify that thousands, if not millions, of times over and you start to understand why it is so important for society to take an interest in these important moral issues.

This is an important bill. We should not weaken it. We should not create loopholes in it or delay its implementation. I believe that we ought to pass it intact, exactly as it is, and everybody in this society will be better off; everybody in this society will understand that we do have some restraints on conduct that is important to our society.

This is a matter where almost everybody who is anybody in sports feels very strongly. Almost everybody who is anybody in sports wants this bill to pass.

The Senator from Arizona and myself have worked long and hard, along with countless others, to try to get this to the floor and, hopefully, get it passed this year so that we can prevent some of these problems that we have been talking about on the floor today. I hope we are able to do so. I hope our colleagues will vote for this bill today in overwhelming numbers. I do not think they could possibly be reluctant to do so, and they will have a lot of acclaim from the people who know most about this for having done so.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY].

AMENDMENT NO. 1657

(Purpose: To provide for certain exemptions to prohibited State activities, and for other purposes)

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY] proposes an amendment numbered 1657.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 5, line 21, strike out the quotation marks and the last period.

On page 5, insert between lines 21 and 22 the following:

"(c) The provisions of section 3702 shall not apply to any lottery, sweepstakes, or other betting, gambling or wagering scheme in a State which, prior to January 1, 1965, enacts legislation stating that such State desires to be exempt from such prohibition."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order the debate will be controlled with 1 hour under the control of the Senator from Iowa, and 1 hour under the control of the Senators from Arizona and Utah.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I yield myself such time as I consume at this point.

Mr. President, the Senator from Arizona and the Senator from Utah just gave very good speeches on the subject of the ills of gambling generally and on the ills of sports gambling.

I say amen, except for their willingness to let the evils of sports gambling continue in the States of Delaware, Oregon, Montana, and Nevada. That, Mr. President, is where I part company from the admirable goals of Senator DECONCINI and Senator HATCH and other supporters of this bill because gambling in any form is not something to encourage or to promote.

If this were a bill about banning gambling, I would probably have a different point of view. But that is not what this bill is about. This bill purports to restrict gambling on sporting events by prohibiting certain States from conducting sports lotteries, and it does so by discriminating against many States, including my State of Iowa, and preferring four States.

In my judgment this is not a distinction that Congress should tolerate. And my amendment is intended to correct this deficiency. My amendment will allow States, all States, a reasonable opportunity to declare that they do not want to be covered by this bill's reach. States would have 2 years under the amendment, until January 1, 1995, to opt out of this bill's coverage.