



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DINA TITUS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
1ST DISTRICT NEVADA

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

December 4, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman—Committee on Energy and
Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member—Committee on Energy and
Commerce
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone,

As the Supreme Court hears oral arguments in *Christie v. NCAA* and examines the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA), Congress should also turn its attention to sports betting in the United States.

Regardless of legality, the sports betting market is alive and booming in the U.S. Our current system has created a \$150 billion illegal sports betting market annually which is ripe for manipulation and use in other forms of criminal activity. Legalizing sports betting with regulation and safeguards would diminish problems caused by the black market and allow state governments to generate additional tax revenue to fund local communities.

States are already preparing for a judicial outcome that paves the way for access to sports betting, with 13 having introduced legislation on the issue this year. Pennsylvania and Connecticut have both passed measures to regulate sports betting in their states if it becomes legal. In addition, Adam Silver, Commissioner of the NBA, has recently said the NBA will engage Congress, regardless of the outcome of *Christie v. NCAA*, on federal policy to regulate sports betting.

It is evident that this issue will be coming to Congress, and we must be ready to move quickly to ensure we protect consumers while excluding bad actors from participating in the marketplace. Members of Congress need to be prepared should action at the Supreme Court open the door for sports betting in their home state or warrant federal legislation. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Energy and Commerce Committee hold a hearing on the future of sports betting in the United States.

Nevada, the only state with full-scale sports wagering, is home to more than 40 highly regulated publicly traded gaming companies. My district comprises the world famous Las Vegas Strip, numerous gaming establishments, including sports books, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) International Center for Gaming Regulation, a first-of-its-kind resource for research and programs to aid gaming regulators and emerging jurisdictions around the world. Inviting gaming regulation experts from these organizations to testify would make this a worthwhile and informative event and help address members' concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dina Titus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Dina Titus
Member of Congress