

Representatives from the Pennsylvania State Police testified three times in support of video gaming legislation.

- Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) Testimony: Colonel Frank Pawlowski, Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), and Major John Lutz, Director of the Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE), expressed support for legislation saying, "...the bill sets forth an effective plan to provide regulation to an underground industry that heretofore has flourished in Pennsylvania. With the additional enforcement provisions of this legislation and the legal alternative it offers to licensed establishments and their patrons, we believe it will result in the removal of illegal machines in Pennsylvania and an end to the criminal enterprise that currently exists."

The Department of Revenue testified four times in support of video gaming legislation.

- Pennsylvania Department of Revenue (DOR) Testimony: Stephen Stettler, Secretary of the Department of Revenue, said that video poker would generate \$128 million in its first year of operation and \$550 million annually when fully operational. He argued that the introduction of "video lottery terminals" is not an expansion of gaming, "rather it is a regulated replacement of an already existing illegal business that has operated free-range for too long." "...unregulated, illegal gaming devices thrive today, yet the Lottery continues to grow. Second, this is the same argument that was made when the first casinos opened their doors in 2006 and was proven unfounded."

Pennsylvania's Governor spoke in support of legalizing video poker during his Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Executive Budget Address.

- "As you know, video poker has long been a popular, though illegal, form of entertainment in private clubs and bars across the state. There are an estimated 17,000 video poker machines in operation today. By any measure, video poker is a thriving business in Pennsylvania, and it is completely unregulated and untaxed. Several other states have acted to wrest control of this activity from the underground, shadowy sponsors who otherwise run it....Despite what some might think, I do not view the legalization of video poker as the first step in an attempt to expand gaming in Pennsylvania. I remain opposed to any such expansion, and I have said so publicly many times. But we are not talking about an expansion, because video poker already exists and is thriving here. Rather, what I propose is to take control of this industry, so that we can remove unscrupulous operators, establish strict new regulations and tough penalties for those who fail to obey the law, and generate needed revenues..." - Edward G. Rendell, Governor