July XX 2018

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins
Senate President pro tem
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Pro Tem Atkins and Senator Portantino,

We, the undersigned nonprofit leaders, write to express our opposition to AB 888, a bill that would eliminate the sunset on 50/50 raffles that can only be operated by an exclusive set of foundations associated with major league sports teams.

There has been no audit or review of these new, high stakes raffles to determine whether they are being run in accordance with the law and in ways that protect the interests of the public and the nonprofit community. Many of the required reports appear to be incomplete, inaccurate, or missing altogether. This means the public has no idea how much of the money is really going to charities. It is premature to remove the sunset on this experimental program without significantly more understanding about how they are operating and who is benefitting.

We are concerned that AB 888 proposes only to extend the law permanently. We urge you to hold AB 888 unless and until the Department of Justice audits the practices and impacts of the last two years of 50/50 major league sports raffles.

Sincerely,

cc: Assemblymember Evan Low
Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Attorney General Xavier Becerra