



THE
AMERICAN
CONSERVATIVE
UNION

AMERICANS
for TAX REFORM



COMPETITIVE
ENTERPRISE
INSTITUTE

Digital Liberty

December 4, 2014

Dear Representative:

We are writing to urge you to sign on to the attached letter that is being circulated by Congressman Frank LoBiondo opposing a vote on H.R. 4301 during the lame duck session, a bill that takes away the ability of states to make their own decisions regarding online gambling.

Regardless of your views of online gambling, we hope you see the importance of preserving the states' Tenth Amendment rights on this issue. It would be wrong to bring this bill to a vote on the eleventh hour of this lame duck session without adequate hearing and debate.

If you would like to sign on or have questions, please contact Matthew Satterley with Congressman LoBiondo at matthew.satterley@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Larry Hart
Director of Government Relations
American Conservative Union

Grover Norquist
President
Americans for Tax Reform

Lawson Bader
President
Competitive Enterprise Institute

Katie McAuliffe
Executive Director
Digital Liberty

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner:

We write to voice our strong opposition to H.R. 4301, the "Restoration of America's Wire Act" and urge you to refrain from supporting or scheduling a vote on this legislation in any fashion. We particularly hope you will oppose any effort to move this bill during the current "Lame Duck" session without any debate or open legislative process.

The clear intent of the legislation is to overturn the decisions of nearly a dozen states that have legalized and regulated online gaming and lotteries. At least three states -- New Jersey, Delaware and Nevada -- have legalized and regulated online gaming for residents of their states. While other states are considering similar moves, Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota and Virginia have approved some version of online gaming, online poker or online lottery products.

Throughout the history of the United States, the issue of gambling has been governed at the state level allowing states like New Jersey to choose gaming while others like Utah and Hawaii have not. The Restore Our Wire Act will greatly expand the federal role in determining the gambling decisions of the states. We believe this bill dangerously undermines the federal-state relationship established in the Tenth Amendment and opens the door for further federal encroachment in the future.

While we may each have different opinions about allowing gaming in our home states, we are united in agreement that states should retain the power to make the decisions best suited for their residents.

We hope you understand the dangers associated with the legislation and urge your opposition to moving it forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

cc: House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.