

Glenn Youngkin Governor

September 27, 2024

The Honorable Don L. Scott Speaker of the House House of Delegates 201 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Mamie E. Locke Chair, Senate Committee on Rules Senate of Virginia 201 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Speaker Scott and Chair Locke:

I wanted to follow up on my earlier commitment to engage in further conversations surrounding skill games. I am sure you share my concern about the tactics of the skill game manufacturer, Pace-O-Matic, attempting to circumvent state law with the creation of a new "QVS2" illegal gambling device. As the Attorney General made clear in a September 26, 2024, memorandum of law: "the QVS2 gaming device is an illegal 'skill game' and therefore, an illegal 'gambling device' under Virginia law."

As the company has already responded that they do not intend to comply, it is now apparent their advocacy for a legalization of skill games machines was at best disingenuous and that they do not intend to ever operate under a robust regulatory framework in the Commonwealth, with consumer protections, regulatory oversight, or appropriate taxation in place.

As I noted in my veto statement for the legislation passed by the General Assembly earlier this year, Senator Rouse's Senate Bill 212 (2024), I remained open to working with the General Assembly on the legalization of skill games. Due to the continued actions in bad faith from Pace-O-Matic, I am writing to formally inform you that if the General Assembly reconvenes during the current special session to pass legislation to lift the ban on skill games or in any way expand gaming, I would be compelled to veto such a bill.

Let me be clear, I fully support legitimate small business owners and other businesses who want to lawfully operate in Virginia. However, I will not support businesses or organizations that work to undermine the rule of law and jeopardize the safety and wellbeing of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ensuring that Virginia is the best place to live, work, and raise a family remains my guiding principle as Governor. Thank you for your continued partnership in the General Assembly.

Sincerely,

Glenn Youngkin

CC: The Honorable L. Louise Lucas, Senate of Virginia

The Honorable Scott Surovell, Senate of Virginia

The Honorable Luke Torian, House of Delegates

The Honorable C. Todd Gilbert, House of Delegates

The Honorable Ryan McDougle, Senate of Virginia

The Honorable Cliff Hayes, House of Delegates

The Honorable Paul Krizek, House of Delegates

The Honorable Aaron Rouse, Senate of Virginia

Mr. Khalid Jones, Virginia Lottery