## **The Connecticut General Assembly**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Rep Rosario's Casino and MMA Bills Clear the Public Safety Committee

Rep **Christopher Rosario** (D-Bridgeport), author of legislation to expand gaming in the state and allow sanctioned mixed martial arts events, hailed passage of both bills by the General Assembly's <u>Public Safety Committee</u>.

<u>An Act Concerning Boxing Events and Mixed Martial Arts Matches</u> would establish regulations to allow Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) bouts in the state of Connecticut.

"MMA is one of the most popular and fastest growing sporting events in the United States and our outdated regulations mean Connecticut cannot host fights," Rep. Rosario said. "We are missing out on millions of dollars in economic activity and doing a disservice to fans who are eager to attend matches in Bridgeport, Hartford and elsewhere in the state."

An Act Concerning Commercial Gaming Licenses would level the playing field for any new proposed casinos by establishing a transparent and competitive process for the issuance of commercial gaming licenses by the Department of Consumer Protection.

"I have heard directly from Bridgeport residents, they want a fair and open process if the state opens another casino. Why not look at Bridgeport as a location?" Rep. Rosario said.

The bills go before the full House of Representatives and await further action.

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