

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HB 2080

Brief Description: Concerning problem gambling.

Sponsors: Representatives McIntire and Lisk

Hearing: February 22, 1999

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires that a warning statement be placed in all advertising and promotion of gambling activity conducted by gambling licensees and the state Lottery Commission.

BACKGROUND:

In 1993, the state Lottery Commission funded a study on problem gambling among adults and adolescents in Washington state. The study serves as a benchmark for comparison with future studies and will be updated in 1999.

The Gambling Commission, the Lottery Commission and the Horse Racing Commission are directed to develop and display through their licensees and retail outlets informational material on problem gambling. These agencies also contribute to the annual support of the State Council on Problem Gambling and the operation of a hotline.

There is no requirement that any disclosure or warning statement be placed in any promotional material or advertising of gambling activities conducted in this state to the effect that such activity may result in problem or pathological gambling.

SUMMARY OF BILL:

Gambling licensees and the Lottery Commission must include the following statement in any advertising or promotion of gambling activity conducted by the licensees or by the Lottery Commission:

CAUTION: Participation in gambling activity may result in pathological gambling

behavior causing emotional and financial harm. For help, call 1-800-547-6133.–
RULES AUTHORITY: The bill does not contain provisions addressing the rule making powers of an agency.

FISCAL NOTE: Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Ninety days after adjournment of a session in which bill is passed.