
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2163

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Wood, Conway, Clements, McIntire and Veloria)

Read first time 03/02/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a program for compulsive gambling
2 education and awareness; creating a new section; and providing an
3 expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A joint select committee on problem
6 gambling is established. The joint select committee shall consist of
7 eight members, as follows:

8 (a) Two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the
9 senate, appointed by the president of the senate, who are members of
10 the senate commerce, trade, housing and financial institutions
11 committee;

12 (b) Two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house
13 of representatives, appointed by the co-speakers of the house of
14 representatives, who are members of the house commerce and labor
15 committee;

16 (c) In addition, the following agencies shall cooperate with the
17 joint select committee and maintain a liaison with the committee: The
18 Washington state gambling commission, the Washington state lottery
19 commission, the Washington state horse racing commission, the

1 department of social and health services, and the department of health.
2 The committee shall choose its co-chairs from among its legislative
3 membership.

4 (2) The committee shall review the following issues:

5 (a) The need to develop policies and programs to address problem
6 and pathological gambling and the response of the gambling industry to
7 the demonstrated need;

8 (b) The need for public awareness programs about problem and
9 pathological gambling, including programs targeting youth, and the
10 effectiveness of current programs;

11 (c) The level of service provided to gamblers and their families
12 through the help line and the best method of providing help line
13 services;

14 (d) The availability of instate treatment services for problem and
15 pathological gamblers and their families; and

16 (e) The appropriate level of public involvement in treatment
17 services including public funding.

18 (3) The committee may consult with individuals from the gambling
19 industry, nonprofit organizations with expertise in problem gambling
20 issues, community mental health organizations, tribal governments
21 involved in gaming, and law enforcement agencies.

22 (4) The committee shall use legislative facilities and staff from
23 senate committee services and the office of program research, but may
24 hire additional staff with specific technical expertise if such
25 expertise is necessary to carry out the mandates of this study. All
26 expenses of the committee, including travel, shall be paid jointly by
27 the senate and the house of representatives.

28 (5) The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to
29 the legislature by December 1, 1999.

30 (6) This section expires July 1, 2000.

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