



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 1014

LCO No. 5408



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR COMPULSIVE GAMBLING
TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17a-713 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall
4 establish a program for the treatment and rehabilitation of compulsive
5 gamblers in the state. The program shall provide prevention, treatment
6 and rehabilitation services for chronic gamblers. The department may
7 enter into agreements with subregional planning and action councils
8 and nonprofit organizations to assist in providing these services,
9 provided not less than twenty-five per cent of the amount received
10 pursuant to section 12-818 annually shall be set aside for contracts with
11 subregional planning and action councils established pursuant to
12 section 17a-671 and nonprofit organizations and not less than five per
13 cent of the amount received pursuant to section 12-818 annually shall
14 be set aside for a contract with the Connecticut Council on Problem
15 Gambling. The department may impose a reasonable fee, on a sliding

16 scale, on those participants who can afford to pay for any such
17 services. The department shall implement such program when the
18 account established under subsection (b) of this section is sufficient to
19 meet initial operating expenses. As used in this section, "chronic
20 gambler" means a person who is chronically and progressively
21 preoccupied with gambling and the urge to gamble, and with
22 gambling behavior that compromises, disrupts or damages personal,
23 family or vocational pursuits.

24 (b) The program established by subsection (a) of this section shall be
25 funded by: [imposition of:] (1) [A] Imposition of a fee of one hundred
26 thirty-five dollars on each association license, for each performance of
27 jai alai or dog racing conducted under the provisions of chapter 226,
28 provided no such licensee shall contribute more than forty-five
29 thousand dollars in any one year; (2) imposition of a fee of twenty-five
30 dollars for each teletheater performance on each operator of a
31 teletheater facility; [and] (3) the amount received from the Connecticut
32 Lottery Corporation pursuant to section 12-818; and (4) a transfer of
33 twenty-five per cent of the revenue the state obtains from any forms of
34 gaming newly enacted or authorized in the state on or after January 1,
35 2019. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall collect the fee
36 from each association licensee or such operator on a monthly basis.
37 The receipts shall be deposited in the General Fund and credited to a
38 separate, nonlapsing chronic gamblers treatment and rehabilitation
39 account which shall be established by the Comptroller. All moneys in
40 the account are deemed to be appropriated and shall be expended for
41 the purposes established in subsection (a) of this section.

42 (c) The department shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
43 provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17a-713

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the funding for treatment and rehabilitation of compulsive gamblers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]