

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 1887

PRINTER NO. 3421

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

Compulsive and Problem Gambling Treatment Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 10, 2016

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Ortityay

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 1887 amends section 1509 (relating to Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program) of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act to move the administrative and enforcement duties of the Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program from the Department of Health to the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs ("department"). Funding for the program will go directly through the department.

The legislation requires the department to maintain one compulsive gamblers assistance organization's toll-free problem gambling telephone number, which shall be 1-800-GAMBLER. If the department is unable to adopt that telephone number, then it shall maintain another number.

House Bill 1887 requires each slot machine licensee to use the telephone number established by the department to direct patrons to problem gambling services. The bill provides slot machine licensees with an exception for up to three years, if prior to the effective of this legislation it was utilizing a toll-free telephone number other than the number established by department.

The act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Compulsive and Problem Gambling Program, including a toll-free gambling hotline number, is currently operated by the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. Therefore, there is no anticipated fiscal impact related to enactment of this legislation.