
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 56 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, BREWSTER, GORDNER, SCHWANK, GREENLEAF,
SMITH, COSTA AND KITCHEN, APRIL 8, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
APRIL 8, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study
2 the current and future state of compulsive and problem
3 gambling treatment in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, The advent of legalized gaming under 4 Pa.C.S. Pt.
5 II (relating to gaming), known as the Pennsylvania Race Horse
6 Development and Gaming Act, has proven to generate billions in
7 revenue to this Commonwealth, local communities and other
8 important programs, such as problem gaming awareness and
9 treatment; and

10 WHEREAS, In the time since the Pennsylvania Race Horse
11 Development and Gaming Act was signed into law in 2004, 12
12 gaming facilities have opened for operation throughout this
13 Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming
15 Act provides for up to 15 gaming facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, These facilities offer a wide variety of slot
17 machines and table games that have generated more than \$6
18 billion in gaming tax revenue; and

1 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming
2 Act designates how moneys from the gaming industry and the State
3 Gaming Fund are to be allocated to the Compulsive and Problem
4 Gambling Treatment Fund to address problem gambling, and assigns
5 the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to administer the
6 fund; and

7 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth does not pay for inpatient gambling
8 treatment; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the National Council on Problem
10 Gambling, 80,000 Pennsylvanians meet the criteria for problem
11 gambling; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 2009, problem gambling treatment admissions
13 have increased 64%; and

14 WHEREAS, More gamblers are being involuntarily banned from
15 casinos; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and
17 Finance Committee to study the current condition of compulsive
18 and problem gambling treatment in this Commonwealth; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That the committee study compulsive and problem
21 gambling treatment in other states in order to make
22 recommendations to the General Assembly on potential changes
23 that would allow proper funding for treatment of compulsive and
24 problem gambling in this Commonwealth; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the committee analyze and compare the funding
26 of compulsive and problem gambling treatment to the revenue
27 generated by gaming in this Commonwealth; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the committee analyze and compare the funding
29 of compulsive and problem gambling treatment to the revenue
30 generated by gaming in other states; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the committee issue a report of its findings
2 and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than May 1,
3 2016.