

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No.  
3 127 entitled “An act relating to sports wagering” respectfully reports that it has  
4 considered the same and recommends that the report of the Committee on  
5 Ways and Means be amended as follows:

6 First: In the fifth instance of amendment, by striking out section 1304 and  
7 inserting in lieu thereof a new section 1304 to read as follows:

8 § 1304. REVENUES TO SPORTS WAGERING FUND

9 The revenues and fees received by the Department pursuant to this chapter  
10 shall be deposited in the Sports Wagering Fund.

11 Second: By striking out the ninth instance of amendment in its entirety and  
12 inserting in lieu thereof a new ninth instance of amendment to read as follows:

13 Ninth: In Sec. 1, 31 V.S.A. chapter 25 (sports wagering), by striking out  
14 section 1341 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof two new sections to be  
15 Secs. 1341 and 1341a to read as follows:

16 § 1341. SPORTS WAGERING FUND

17 (a) The Sports Wagering Fund is established. It shall consist of all  
18 revenues and fees received by the Department pursuant to this chapter and all  
19 amounts that are from time to time appropriated to the Department for  
20 purposes of this chapter.

1        (b) The Department’s administrative and operating costs shall be allocated  
2        to and paid from the Fund based on generally accepted accounting principles.

3        § 1341a. PROBLEM GAMBLING PROGRAM

4        (a) The Department of Mental Health shall establish and administer the  
5        Problem Gambling Program to:

6            (1) provide support to agencies, organizations, and persons that provide  
7            education, assistance, awareness, treatment, and recovery services to persons  
8            and families experiencing difficulty as a result of addictive or problematic  
9            gambling;

10           (2) promote public awareness of and provide education concerning  
11           gambling addiction;

12           (3) establish programs to certify addiction counselors;

13           (4) promote public awareness of assistance programs for gambling  
14           addiction; and

15           (5) fund a helpline with text messaging and online chat capabilities.

16        (b) On or before January 15 of each year, the Department of Mental Health  
17        shall submit to the General Assembly a report detailing the expenditures  
18        related to the Problem Gambling Program in the preceding fiscal year and  
19        summarizing the programs and activities supported by those expenditures.

1        Third: In the tenth instance of amendment, in Sec. 2a (appropriations), by  
2        striking out all after the section heading and inserting in lieu thereof the  
3        following:

4        (a) The following sums are appropriated from the Sports Wagering Fund to  
5        the Department of Mental Health for purposes of establishing and  
6        administering the Problem Gambling Program:

7                (1) in fiscal year 2024, \$250,000.00; and

8                (2) in fiscal year 2025, \$500,000.00.

9        (b) In fiscal year 2024, \$550,000.00 is appropriated from the Sports  
10        Wagering Fund to the Department of Liquor and Lottery. This appropriation is  
11        made in anticipation of receipts from sports wagering operator fees.

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14        (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE