

# HOUSE BILL 468

C7

8lr1271

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By: **Delegates Hixson, Gilchrist, Jennings, Olszewski, Rice, Stukes, F. Turner, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Video Lottery Terminals – Center on the Prevention of Compulsive Gambling**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Center on the Prevention of Compulsive  
4 Gambling in the University of Maryland School of Medicine; specifying the  
5 purpose of the Center; requiring the Center to perform certain tasks relating to  
6 the study, prevention, and treatment of compulsive gambling; requiring the  
7 Center to establish a hotline to provide counseling and other support services;  
8 requiring that the Center be supported by money from the Compulsive  
9 Gambling Fund; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Center on  
10 the Prevention of Compulsive Gambling.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Health – General

13 Section 19–805

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 **19–805.**

20 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “CENTER” MEANS THE CENTER ON THE  
21 PREVENTION OF COMPULSIVE GAMBLING.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) THERE IS A CENTER ON THE PREVENTION OF COMPULSIVE**  
2 **GAMBLING IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.**

3           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE CENTER IS TO SERVE AS A STATEWIDE**  
4 **RESOURCE RELATING TO THE PREVENTION, CAUSE, AND TREATMENT OF**  
5 **COMPULSIVE GAMBLING.**

6           **(D) THE CENTER SHALL:**

7                   **(1) PROVIDE EXPERT EDUCATION AND PREVENTION MATERIALS;**

8                   **(2) PROVIDE EDUCATION OF AND TRAINING MODULES FOR**  
9 **HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS;**

10                   **(3) OVERSEE PILOT RESEARCH STUDIES TO LEVERAGE FEDERAL**  
11 **AND PRIVATE GRANT FUNDING;**

12                   **(4) SERVE AS A CENTRAL REPOSITORY OF RESOURCE MATERIALS,**  
13 **INCLUDING INTERNET ACCESS TO THESE MATERIALS;**

14                   **(5) ESTABLISH A 24-HOUR, TOLL-FREE HOTLINE TO PROVIDE**  
15 **COUNSELING AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES; AND**

16                   **(6) CONDUCT OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES.**

17           **(E) THE CENTER SHALL BE SUPPORTED BY MONEY FROM THE**  
18 **COMPULSIVE GAMBLING FUND CREATED UNDER § 9-1A-33 OF THE STATE**  
19 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

20           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
21 October 1, 2008.