



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

January 15, 2025

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill (SB) 86 – Online Sports Wagering – Problem Gambling Resources – Required Contact Information – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 86 – Online Sports Wagering – Problem Gambling Resources – Required Contact Information.

This bill requires mobile sports wagering licensees to prominently display contact information for the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling on the homepage of their online sports wagering websites and mobile applications. Given the increase in online sports wagering, this legislation takes an important step toward raising awareness about problem gambling resources and ensuring individuals in need can quickly access support by mandating such visibility. Including a direct link to the resources provides a seamless connection to valuable assistance, reinforcing Maryland's commitment to addressing problem gambling and promoting responsible wagering practices.

SB 86 complements ongoing efforts to mitigate the risks of gambling addiction, particularly in an era where online and mobile platforms make sports wagering increasingly accessible. By emphasizing prevention and outreach, the bill aligns with the Department's mission to safeguard the health and well-being of Maryland residents.

I hope this information is helpful. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs, at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH
Secretary