

## Senate Budget & Tax Committee January 15, 2025

## Senate Bill 86 Online Sports Wagering - Problem Gambling Resources - Required Contact Information Support

NCADD-Maryland supports Senate Bill 86. This bill will improve upon the existing responsible gambling requirements of the state and ensure that mobile sports wagering licensees prominently post information about how to get help for problem gambling.

In Maryland, it is estimated that 3.4% of adults are problem or pathological gamblers. Data shows that more and more younger people are involved in gambling activities and experiencing problems. Gambling hotlines serve as an entry point for people who think they need help. Through hotlines, callers can learn about additional resources they need to address their problems. These resources may include additional brief interventions over the phone, a connection to a peer counselor, and when the problem is severe, formal treatment.

Problem gambling hotlines are the entry point for information and help. Senate Bill 86 is a sensible measure to promote this access. We urge a favorable report.