

SEATU
iGaming Talking Points

- Between both UFCW and SEATU we represent approximately 25,000 hard working Maryland employees
- Approximately 5,000 employees at Rocky Gap Casino & Hotel, Hollywood Casino, and Live! Casino & Hotel
- 6 Bricks & Mortar (B&M) casinos support jobs for more than 27,300 Marylanders
- Overwhelming majority of B&M casino related jobs are unionized, have full benefits, and are filled by minority individuals
- iGaming/iLottery will produce no MD in-state jobs

- Neighboring PA saw a 24% decline in jobs since iGaming, more than 2,000 people lost their livelihood
- In NJ, nearly 16,000 jobs have been lost as a result of iGaming
- One study determined that MD would lose over 4,000 jobs due to iGaming¹
 - Would also mean nearly \$225M in lost MD labor income
 - And nearly \$700M in lost MD economic output
- MD would lose nearly \$2B in gaming tax revenue over 10 years from iGaming

- iGaming has been called the gambling fentanyl by Stop Predatory Gambling & Campaign for Gambling-Free Kids
- The American Psychological Association has described iGaming as “one of the most addictive activities available.”
- Online gamblers are 8x more likely to report compulsive gambling according to National Problem Gambling Council
- iGaming states have seen dramatic increases in problem gambling and addiction
 - 277% increase in New Jersey helpline calls as per news reports from Sept. 2024 & studies show that 40% of iGaming players reported problem gambling
 - 290% increase in PA helpline calls as per National Council on Problem Gambling data and a 2022 study showed that more than 36% of iGaming players suffered from problem gambling
 - 267% increase in Michigan helpline calls as per news reports from Nov. 2024
- The 2023 iGaming in NJ report projected that iGaming results in social costs (addiction, welfare payments, homelessness and criminal justice) totaling \$350M per year – costing more than even the rosiest projections for MD tax revenue from iGaming
- The UK government has called for a 100 Million Pound levy on the online gambling industry to combat addiction and social problems caused by online gambling
- iGaming can lead to an epidemic of gaming addiction among teens and young people with 38% of online gamblers being between the age of 18-24 as per the NPGC

- \$10M labor fund in iGaming bill will **NOT** make up for lost jobs
- 43 states, including Nevada, have not pursued iGaming
- Of 8 states that looked at iGaming in 2024, **NONE** enacted iGaming
- Both iGaming and iLottery will mean lost jobs, lost wages, and lost investment in MD

iGaming/iLottery Would Be Bad Bets for Maryland!