



House Ways & Means Committee

March 26, 2025

Senate Bill 310 - Education - Youth Suicide Prevention

School Program - Revisions

Support

NCADD-Maryland supports Senate Bill 310. We believe that the increasing use of on-line gaming by young people necessitates greater education in our schools about its dangers.

Making sure young people are taught the potential dangers of gambling is the first step in prevention of a cascade of problems. Studies are clear that young people are at higher risk than adults for developing a gambling problem. And as with all addictions, those who start gambling at a young age are more likely to develop a gambling addiction later in life.

There is also ample evidence that people who develop serious problems are at much higher risk of attempting and dying of suicide. With the State continuing to expand opportunities for legal gambling, it is incumbent on law makers and our education system to give young people the tools they need to make smart choices.

We urge a favorable report.