

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Ryan Moran, DrPH, MHSA, Acting Secretary

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary Chair, Ways and Means Committee 130 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 86 – Online Sports Wagering – Problem Gambling Resources – Required Contact Information – Letter of Support as Amended

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support as amended 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 landing page 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,

Ryan Moran, DrPh, MHSA

Acting Secretary