



February 19, 2026

House Ways and Means Committee
130 Taylor House Office Building
131 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 758 – Problem Gambling - Authorized Uses of Funds - Alterations

Dear Chair Wilkins:

The Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling (the Center) does not support *HB 758 – Problem Gambling - Authorized Uses of Funds - Alterations*. This bill takes away the State's ability to use the Problem Gambling Fund to pay for research and training. The Center is fully funded through the Problem Gambling Fund, and two core components of the Center's activities are the bi-annual Maryland Gambling Prevalence Study and free trainings with continuing education units (CEUs) for Maryland licensed psychologists, social workers, counselors and therapists, and alcohol and drug addiction counselors. If this bill passes as it is written, it will terminate the Center's gambling training and research capacities.

If you would like more information, please contact Heather Eshleman at heshleman@som.umaryland.edu or (667) 214-2120.

Sincerely,

Heather Eshleman, MPH

Director of Operations
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