

By Representative Morroni

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to compulsive gambling;
3 directing the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental
4 Health Program Office within the Department of
5 Children and Family Services to establish a
6 program for public education, training,
7 prevention, and treatment; amending s. 24.105,
8 F.S.; requiring the Department of the Lottery
9 to require vendors to provide notice of a
10 toll-free problem gambling hotline; requiring
11 lottery personnel and vendors to receive
12 certain training and education; amending s.
13 24.112, F.S.; requiring retailers of lottery
14 tickets to provide notice of a toll-free
15 problem gambling hotline; amending s. 550.054,
16 F.S.; requiring pari-mutuel licensees to
17 provide notice of a toll-free problem gambling
18 hotline; amending s. 849.0931, F.S.; requiring
19 authorized bingo organizations to provide
20 notice of a toll-free problem gambling hotline;
21 providing appropriations; providing an
22 effective date.

23
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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26 Section 1. Compulsive gambling program.--The Alcohol,
27 Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Program Office within the
28 Department of Children and Family Services shall establish a
29 program for public education, awareness, and training
30 regarding problem and compulsive gambling and the treatment
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1 and prevention of problem and compulsive gambling. The program
2 shall include:

3 (1) Maintenance of a compulsive gambling advocacy
4 organization's toll-free problem gambling telephone number to
5 provide crisis counseling and referral services to families
6 experiencing difficulty as a result of problem or compulsive
7 gambling.

8 (2) The promotion of public awareness regarding the
9 recognition and prevention of problem or compulsive gambling.

10 (3) Facilitation, through inservice training and other
11 means, of the availability of effective assistance programs
12 for problem and compulsive gamblers, of all ages, and family
13 members affected by problem and compulsive gambling.

14 (4) Studies to identify adults and juveniles in this
15 state who are, or who are at risk of becoming, problem or
16 compulsive gamblers.

17 Section 2. Subsections (22) and (23) are added to
18 section 24.105, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

19 24.105 Powers and duties of department.--The
20 department shall:

21 (22) Print the statement "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW
22 HAS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE. CALL
23 1-800-426-7711" on all lottery tickets, advertising, and
24 marketing materials provided to the general public and shall
25 include this requirement in all contracts entered into with
26 vendors pursuant to s. 24.111.

27 (23) Require all department personnel and vendors to
28 receive training and education on problem and compulsive
29 gambling provided by an advocacy organization for problem and
30 compulsive gambling.

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1 Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 24.112, Florida
2 Statutes, is amended to read:

3 24.112 Retailers of lottery tickets.--

4 (6) Every retailer shall post and keep conspicuously
5 displayed in a location on the premises accessible to the
6 public its certificate of authority and, with respect to each
7 game, a statement supplied by the department of the estimated
8 odds of winning some prize for the game. Every retailer shall
9 also post and keep conspicuously displayed in a location on
10 the premises accessible to the public the statement "IF YOU OR
11 SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE.
12 CALL 1-800-426-7711" and shall print this statement on all
13 advertising and marketing materials provided or conducted by
14 the licensee and on all lottery tickets.

15 Section 4. Subsections (14) and (15) are added to
16 section 550.054, Florida Statutes, to read:

17 550.054 Application for permit to conduct pari-mutuel
18 wagering.--

19 (14) Each pari-mutuel facility licensee shall post
20 signs with the statement "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A
21 GAMBLING PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE. CALL 1-800-426-7711."
22 Such signs shall be posted within 50 feet of each entrance and
23 exit and within 50 feet of each credit location within the
24 pari-mutuel facility. Such signs shall also be posted within
25 50 feet of any facility at which an intertrack wager may be
26 placed.

27 (15) Each pari-mutuel facility licensee shall print
28 the statement "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A GAMBLING
29 PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE. CALL 1-800-426-7711" on all
30 advertising and marketing materials provided or conducted by
31 the licensee or its lessees to the general public.

1 Section 5. Present subsection (13) of section
2 849.0931, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (15),
3 and new subsections (13) and (14) are added to that section,
4 to read:

5 849.0931 Bingo authorized; conditions for conduct;
6 permitted uses of proceeds; limitations.--

7 (13) Each organization conducting bingo open to the
8 public shall post signs with the statement "IF YOU OR SOMEONE
9 YOU KNOW HAS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE. CALL
10 1-800-426-7711." Such signs shall be posted within 50 feet of
11 each entrance and exit to the premises at which bingo is
12 conducted by the organization.

13 (14) Each organization conducting bingo open to the
14 public shall print the statement "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW
15 HAS A GAMBLING PROBLEM, HELP IS AVAILABLE. CALL
16 1-800-426-7711" on all advertising and marketing materials
17 provided or conducted by the licensee.

18 (15)~~(13)~~ Any organization or other person who
19 willfully and knowingly violates any provision of subsections
20 (1)-(12) commits this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of
21 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
22 775.083. For a second or subsequent offense, the organization
23 or other person commits is guilty of a felony of the third
24 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or
25 s. 775.084.

26 Section 6. Appropriations.--

27 (1) The amount of \$500,000 is hereby appropriated from
28 the General Revenue Fund to the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and
29 Mental Health Program Office within the Department of Children
30 and Family Services to establish a dedicated, nonreverting
31 fund for distribution to an advocacy organization for problem

1 and compulsive gambling to maintain the toll-free statewide
2 problem gambling referral hotline, promote public awareness,
3 and conduct inservice training concerning problem and
4 compulsive gambling in cooperation with the program office, as
5 required by section 1 of this act.

6 (2) The amount of \$2 million is hereby appropriated
7 from the General Revenue Fund to the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and
8 Mental Health Program Office within the Department of Children
9 and Family Services to establish a dedicated, nonreverting
10 fund to conduct treatment programs for problem and compulsive
11 gamblers.

12 (3) The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering within the
13 Department of Business and Professional Regulation is hereby
14 authorized to expend up to \$250,000 from the Pari-Mutuel
15 Wagering Trust Fund for education, awareness, prevention, and
16 treatment programs for problem and compulsive gamblers.

17 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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20 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

21 Directs the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health
22 Program Office of the Department of Children and Family
23 Services to establish a program for public education,
24 training, prevention, and treatment of compulsive
25 gambling. Requires personnel and vendors of the
26 Department of the Lottery to receive certain training and
27 education regarding compulsive gambling. Requires
28 vendors, retailers, pari-mutuel licensees, and
29 organizations authorized to conduct bingo to provide
30 notice of a toll-free problem gambling hotline. Provides
31 appropriations.