

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2308

2001 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2308

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2308

Senate Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 6, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		
1		X	
February 7, 2001 2		B	17.8
March 28, 2001 1	X		
Committee Clerk Signature			

Minutes:

The Human Services Committee was called to order by SENATOR LEE. All senators were present.

The hearing was opened on SB 2308.

REPRESENTATIVE CLEARY, sponsor of the bill, introduced the bill. (Written testimony)

KAREN ROMIG LARSON, Director of the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in the ND Dept of Human Services, offered comments on the bill. (Written testimony)

SENATOR MATHERN: What would be the rationale for moving from the standards of certification from the national counsel on the problem of gambling to the department's standards

and do you support that? MS. ROMIG LARSON: The national certification standards are extremely tough to achieve and difficult to manage and costly to the professionals to do that.

There are a number of states that are addressing that today.

SENATOR KRINGSTAD, cosponsor of the bill, supports bill in written testimony.

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REPRESENTATIVE MARIGOS, cosponsor of bill, supports bill. SENATOR POLOVITZ:

Have we looked into gambling places to pay this? REP. MARIGOS: Yes, it's time for the legislature to act with the pocketbook, not just words.

DICK ELEFSON, Licensed Addiction Counselor and Social Worker engaged in private

practices, supports bill. (Written testimony) SENATOR MATHERN: What is your input on the

standards. The bill would strike out the National counsel on problem gambling for certification

standards and move to the department adopting standards for certification. MR. ELEFSON: I do

support this. ND has the highest standards of licensure for addiction councilors of any state in

terms of academic credentials, experience and that is not taken into account in the National

certification. I strongly support this and would hope to develop more resources in state, not

lower them. It is easier for more people to qualify. SENATOR LEE asked about

telecounseling? MR. ELEFSON: The face to face is important, but I wouldn't rule it out.

BEN KLAPP, Council on Compulsive Gambling, supports this bill. We need help. Rural areas

are a problem. The question was asked if they would fund this? 55/45 is already taken out..

55% to charitable organizations, 45% to state.

TODD KRANDA, lawyer for the Charitable Gaming Association, , supports bill. Statistics do

include tribal gambling. SENATOR MATHERN: Does your organization request funds from

the Governor's budget? MR. KRANDA: I'm not sure what communication had occurred with

the Governor's office on this request; our support has always been there. There should be some

sharing of tribal funds here. Age to play is 18; age to be in the hall at 14. You can accompany

an adult at any age, but cannot play..

RON PLANTE, recovering compulsive gambler and ND Gaming and Compulsive Gamblers Counseling, supports bill. The money is need to educate the professional people for the general public. 40% of the compulsive gamblers are teenagers. We need to make compulsive gamblers and their families aware that there is help; to treat this growing emotional illness. The treatments cost \$1200, 1400, 1600. We need a professional hotline. When the gambler reaches out for help he is completely destitute, and will make one call out of desperation. The information he gets has got to be correct. SENATOR LEE: There are several counties that have hotlines. Is there a connection with any of the addiction councilors as a referral point. MR. PLANTE: We are in dire need of our own; just for gamblers. The hotline to Mental Health has worked out but not being professionally trained I've seen incorrect information given out and that is the only chance he has.

ROSE STOLLER, Mental Health Association, commented in a neutral position. For the past two years our Association has received approximately \$85,000 each year from the ND Indian Gaming Association which represents all tribes in ND. Those dollars are their contribution to the program of compulsive gambling. We use these dollars to assist in funding our 24-hour help line. Casino newsletters publicize and promote the number. We are presently taking about 15 calls per month. We have provided training for Casino management and Casino employees in recognition of compulsive gambling problems. We have been able to pay for direct treatment services to the providers. We are also able to pay for transportation costs or travel costs associated with getting treatment. We are cosponsoring a conference on compulsive gambling in April. SENATOR KILZER: Do Human Services Centers provide any services in this area? MS. STOLLER: My hunch is that they do not; Karen Larson can probably tell you.

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MS. LARSON: Currently the Human Service Centers do not have the funding to provide the additional training for treatment services.

ART LINK, former Governor of ND, supports bill. He opposes gambling per say! We are dealing with the fallout of gambling. Quoted a passage from Governor's statement. State lottery was again discussed in the House. They also wanted to raise unlimited bets. This is only the rise of gambling. They are trying to compete with the casinos. We need to help the victims; we recognize the people that need help. I hope that we do not permit an endorsement for the act of gambling as a means of providing funds for whatever purposes and legitimizes further expansion of gambling. I do support the provisions of this bill and those who ask for your help in having the legislature do all that it can to help those helpless victims. Final suggestion - We must put the brakes on further expansion of gambling.

SOPHIA PRESZLER, citizen, supports bill. Why would the state endorse gambling. Wish our state would get out of gambling.

The hearing was closed on SB 2308.

Discussion was opened on SB 2308 on February 7, 2001, Tape 2, Side B, Meter 17.8.

SENATOR MATHERN moved to adopt the amendments: Line 2, page 2 to \$600,000.

SENATOR FISCHER seconded it. Discussion on amendments. Roll call vote carried 4-2.

Discussion. SENATOR KILZER moved a DO PASS AS AMENDED and REREFERRED to Appropriations. SENATOR MATHERN seconded. Roll call vote carried 4-2. SENATOR KILZER will carry the bill.

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Bill/Resolution Number SB 2308

Hearing Date February 5, 2001

March 28, 2001, Tape 1, Side A, Meter 8.4.

Discussion on the return of SB 2308 and the amendments the House put on. SENATOR

MATHERN moved a DO CONCUR. SENATOR FISCHER seconded the motion. Voice vote

carried. SENATOR KILZER will carry the bill.

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 Requested by Legislative Council  
 04/16/2001

Bill/Resolution No.:

Amendment to: Reengrossed  
 SB 2308

**1A. State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	1999-2001 Biennium		2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$89,000			
Appropriations			\$89,000			

**1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

1999-2001 Biennium			2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

**2. Narrative:** *Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.*

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to contract with qualified treatment service providers for compulsive gambling services. The bill includes an appropriation of \$89,000 of which \$1,000 may be designated for per diem and travel expenses for members of in-state professional boards to meet and set certification standards.

**3. State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

**A. Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

**B. Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

The expenditures include an operating line item expense of \$88,000 for contracting with qualified treatment providers. In addition, there is designated \$1,000 for the travel costs of professional board members to gather information and set certification standards. The travel would be inquired as an operating line item expense and would be one-time costs in the 01-03 biennium.

**C. Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the*



*executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.*

An additional appropriation of \$89,000 is included in the bill for compulsive gambling services. These funds would be 100% general funds and were not reflected in the Department's budget request.

<b>Name:</b>	Brenda M. Welsz	<b>Agency:</b>	Department of Human Services
<b>Phone Number:</b>	328-2397	<b>Date Prepared:</b>	04/16/2001

## FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council  
02/20/2001

Bill/Resolution No.:

Amendment to:           Engrossed  
                                  SB 2308

**1A. State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	1999-2001 Biennium		2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>						
<b>Expenditures</b>			\$89,000			
<b>Appropriations</b>			\$89,000			

**1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

1999-2001 Biennium			2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

**2. Narrative:** *Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.*

The bill requires the Department of Human Services to contract with qualified treatment service providers for compulsive gambling services. The bill includes an appropriation of \$50,000 to contract for the services. The bill also requires the department to adopt standards for certification of gambling counselors. Based on a process of developing standards with a representative group of stakeholders, one-time costs of \$39,000 within the 01-03 biennium will also be incurred. The bill's appropriation includes \$39,000 for these costs. This does not include the department's providing on-going supervision and management of the certified individuals.

**3. State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

**A. Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

**B. Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

The expenditures include \$50,000 for contracting with qualified treatment providers. This would be budgeted in the operating line. There would be additional expenditures of \$39,000 for the process of designing standards of certification. This would include costs of travel for meetings and the cost of contracting with an individual to facilitate this process and would be one-time costs in the 01-03 biennium.

