

2023 SENATE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SB 2077

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2077
1/6/2023

Relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.

11:00 A.M. Chairman Roers opened the hearing. Present: Chair K Roers, Vice Chair Barta, Sen Cleary, Sen Estenson, Sen J Lee, and Sen Braunberger.

Discussion Topics:

- Funding
- Extra contracts

11:03 A.M. Bill Kalanek, representing the ND Charitable Gaming Associate of ND and the ND Association of the Disabled, testified verbally in support, except change 'shall' to 'may'.

11:03 A.M. James, Knopik, Manager of Addiction/Prevention Program and Policy with the Dept of Human Services Behavior Health Division, testified in support. #12487

11:07 A.M. Scott Meske, representing the ND Gaming Alliance, testified in support. #12485

11:11 A.M. Lisa Vig, Licensed Addiction Counselor and International Certified Gambling Counselor, verbally testified in support.

11:16 A.M. Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director of ND Family Alliance Legislative Action, testified in support. # 12489

11:18 A.M. Christopher Dodson, ND Catholic Conference, verbally testified in opposition.

11:21 A.M. Chairman Roers closed the hearing.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2077
1/12/2023

A bill relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.
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2:18PM Chair Roers opened the meeting. Present: Chair Roers, Vice Chair Barta, Sen Cleary, Sen Estenson, Sen J Lee, and Sen Braunberger.

Discussion Topics:

- Gambling Disorder prevention
- Shall and must defined
- Amendments drafting discussion
- Necessity of the bill

2:21PM Chair Roers requested the intern to draft amendments.

2:24PM Chair Roers closed the meeting.

Carie Winings, Chief Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2077
1/13/2023

Relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.

9:00 AM Chair Roers opened committee work. Present: Chair Roers, Vice Chair Barta, Sen Cleary, Sen Estenson, Sen J Lee, and Sen Braunberger.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

Sen Lee moved Amendment 23.8037.01001.

Sen Cleary seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Ryan Braunberger	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Judy Estenson	Y
Senator Judy Lee	Y

VOTE: YES – 6 NO – 0 ABSENT – 0 Motion PASSED

Sen Barta moved a DO PASS as Amended.

Sen Estenson seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Ryan Braunberger	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Judy Estenson	Y
Senator Judy Lee	Y

VOTE: YES – 6 NO – 0 ABSENT – 0 Motion PASSED

Sen Barta will carry the bill.

9:05 AM Chair Roers closed the meeting.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

23.8037.01001
Title.02000

Adopted by the Senate State and Local
Government Committee
January 13, 2023

BR
1/13
1/13/2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2077

Page 1, line 9, remove the overstrike over "~~shall~~"

Page 1, line 9, remove "may"

Page 1, line 11, remove "may"

Renumber accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2077: State and Local Government Committee (Sen. K. Roers, Chairman)
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends
DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2077 was placed
on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

Page 1, line 9, remove the overstrike over "shall"

Page 1, line 9, remove "may"

Page 1, line 11, remove "may"

Renumber accordingly

2023 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2077

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2077
3/7/2023

Relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.

Chairman Weisz called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

Chairman Robin Weisz, Reps. Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Clayton Fegley, Kathy Frelich, Dawson Holle, Dwight Kiefert, Carrie McLeod, Todd Porter, Brandon Prichard, Karen M. Rohr, Jayme Davis, and Gretchen Dobervich present. Vice Chairman Matthew Ruby not present.

Discussion Topics:

- Treatment services
- Flexibility
- Legalized gambling
- Individuals with gambling addictions

James Knopik, Director of Behavior Health Division with the Department of Health and Human Services, introduced SB 2077 with supportive testimony (#22505).

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director for North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action, supportive testimony (#22423).

Chairman Weisz adjourned the meeting at 9:43 AM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2077
3/7/2023

Relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services.

Chairman Weisz called the meeting to order at 9:54 AM.

Chairman Robin Weisz, Reps. Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Clayton Fegley, Kathy Frelich, Dawson Holle, Dwight Kiefert, Carrie McLeod, Todd Porter, Brandon Prichard, Karen M. Rohr, Jayme Davis, and Gretchen Dobervich present. Vice Chairman Matthew Ruby not present.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee work
- Language of bill
- Contracting

Chairman Weisz called for a discussion on SB 2077.

Rep. Rohr moved a do pass on SB 2077.

Seconded by Rep. Holle.

James Knopik, Director of Behavior Health Division with the Department of Health and Human Services, answered questions from the committee.

Roll Call Vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Robin Weisz	Y
Representative Matthew Ruby	AB
Representative Karen A. Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Beltz	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	Y
Representative Kathy Frelich	Y
Representative Dawson Holle	Y
Representative Dwight Kiefert	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Todd Porter	Y
Representative Brandon Prichard	Y
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y

House Human Services Committee
SB 2077
3/7/2023
Page 2

Motion carries 13-0-1.

Carried by Rep. Prichard.

Chairman Weisz adjourned the meeting at 9:59 AM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2077, as engrossed: Human Services Committee (Rep. Weisz, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
Engrossed SB 2077 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SB 2077



Benefiting North Dakota Communities through Charitable Gaming

Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 2077

Madam Chair Roers and Members of the Committee:

I'm Scott Meske, representing the North Dakota Gaming Alliance and on behalf of the 152 Members of the NDGA, we offer our support for Senate Bill 2077 with a one minor change, and a simple amendment. We support the option to have it contracted out, but specifically would like the word "may" changed back to "shall" to ensure the department is required to administer the gambling addiction and prevention programs.

To assist with the funding of the programs, we would also request an amendment be added to the bill to *increase* the amount that is designated towards gambling disorder prevention from it's current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter, or an eight-fold increase. Combined with proceeds from the North Dakota Lottery, and the contributions from the Tribal Gaming Compact, the total amount available for the gambling addiction and treatment program would total about \$790,000 each year.

We believe there is more than enough revenue from gaming-generated taxes and contributions to support a comprehensive gaming addiction and treatment program in North Dakota, run by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The North Dakota Gaming Alliance urges a DO PASS on SB 2077 with the proposed modifications as we have outlined.



Testimony
Senate Bill No.2077
Senate State and Local Government Committee
Senator Roers, Chairman
January 6, 2023

Chairman Roers, and members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, I am James Knopik, Manager of Addiction and Prevention Program and Policy with the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) Behavioral Health Division. I appear before you in support of Senate Bill No. 2077, which was introduced at the request of the Department.

The Department's Behavioral Health Division is responsible for administering the state's gambling disorder prevention and treatment fund in accordance with North Dakota Century Code 50-06-21. These funds are used to provide gambling prevention and treatment services for individuals in the state with a gambling disorder. Previously the Department had contracted with Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota to provide these services. With the closure of Lutheran Social Services in 2021 the Department transitioned the gambling treatment employees to the Behavioral Health Division allowing individuals in need of gambling disorder treatment to continue receiving their services and preventing an abrupt stop to gambling disorder treatment services in North Dakota.

The proposed change in this Bill amends section 50-06-21 of the North Dakota Century Code regarding gambling disorder services. Page 1, lines 9 and 10 modifies the language of shall to may. This change would allow the Department to continue to administer the problem gambling funds for prevention and treatment.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to try to answer any questions the committee may have. Thank you.



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2077

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action

January 6, 2023

Good morning Madam Chair Roers and honorable members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 2077 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill, with adoption of the changes proposed by the North Dakota Gaming Alliance.

Our organization is, and always has been, opposed to legalized gambling in North Dakota. In part, we are opposed to gambling given the variety of disorders and negative secondary impacts it can create for North Dakota families. It is vital that we as a state help our citizens deal with these issues sooner as opposed to later – particularly before gambling disorders create even worse problems down the road.

Senate Bill 2077, with proposed changes, would preserve the current mandate to fund gambling disorder prevention and treatment, would allow the ND Department of Health and Human Services to manage and distribute these funds with greater flexibility, and would increase funding for gambling disorder prevention from its current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter. For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you please vote Senate Bill 2077, with proposed changes, out of committee with a “DO PASS” recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I am now happy to stand for any questions.

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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2077

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
March 7, 2023

Good morning Chairman Weisz and honorable members of the House Human Services Committee. My name is Mark Jorritsma and I am the Executive Director of North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 2077 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

Our organization is, and always has been, opposed to legalized gambling in North Dakota. In part, we are opposed to gambling given the variety of disorders and negative secondary impacts it can create for North Dakota families. It is vital that we as a state help our citizens deal with these issues sooner as opposed to later – particularly before gambling disorders create even worse problems down the road.

Two changes were proposed to this bill when it was before the Senate State and Local Government Committee. First, we requested that language be changed to clarify that HHS was *required* to operate the program – this change was made in the amended version you have before you today. Second, the North Dakota Gaming Alliance proposed that the gambling disorder prevention program funding be increased from its current level of \$10,000 per quarter to \$80,000 per quarter. We agreed with their position for increased funding of this critical program, however, this proposed change was not incorporated in the current version of the bill.

While we would have liked to see more funding go towards help for those with gambling disorders, we appreciate the continuation of this important program, the additional flexibility given to HHS to contract for services, and the wording change we proposed. For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action asks that you please render a “DO PASS” on Senate Bill 2077, as amended by the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I am now happy to stand for any questions.

Testimony
Engrossed Senate Bill No.2077
House Human Services Committee
Representative Weisz, Chairman
March 7, 2023

Chairman Robin Weisz, and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am James Knopik, Manager of Addiction and Prevention Program and Policy with the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) Behavioral Health Division. I appear before you in support of Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2077, which was introduced at the request of the Department.

The Department's Behavioral Health Division is responsible for administering the state's gambling disorder prevention and treatment fund in accordance with North Dakota Century Code 50-06-21. These funds are used to provide gambling prevention and treatment services for individuals in the state with a gambling disorder. Previously, the Department had contracted with Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota to provide these services. With the closure of Lutheran Social Services in 2021 the Department transitioned the gambling treatment employees to the Behavioral Health Division allowing individuals in need of gambling disorder treatment to continue receiving their services and preventing an abrupt stop to gambling disorder treatment services in North Dakota.

The proposed change in this Bill amends section 50-06-21 of the North Dakota Century Code regarding gambling disorder services. Page 1, lines 9 and 10 adds the language "administer, develop, and implement a gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services program or". This change would

allow the Department to continue to administer the problem gambling funds for prevention and treatment.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to try to answer any questions the committee may have. Thank you.