REMARKS BY

TONY MILILLO, PRESIDENT PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 12, 1996

Good morning Chairman Gannon and members of the Committee. My name is Tony Milillo, and I am President of the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania. We are a statewide 501-C3 non profit organization and we were incorporated in our Commonwealth in 1983. The mission of our council is to provide information, to facilitate research, conduct professional training concerning compulsive gambling and to have available a 24 hour statewide Helpline. We study treatment techniques, support public education and provide prevention services. these efforts are primarily directed at those individuals considered to be at the highest risk especially adolescents and seniors. We are developing specific knowledge and advanced training leading toward certification for professionals in the prevention treatment and rehabilitation of compulsive gamblers. We produce a newsletter filled with informative articles concerning compulsive gambling. We present education in schools, colleges, businesses and the health field. We provide speakers and literature on request. There is never any charge for our services. We are involved with the program "Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers" and the Pennsylvania Bar Association due to problems growing in this area.

I have been involved with compulsive gamblers for over 20 years and I am a recovering gambler myself. My family, friends, and my profession were all destroyed by my gambling. There was no helpline or much information when I needed it most. So I, and those close to me may have suffered longer then needed. We provide all these services throughout our state and help many who may not have to go through what I went through. Many in this room did not know we even existed. We do need to be more visible, to be able to develop more programs and be available to our entire state. We are not against gambling. Many can gamble for fun and entertainment. But for those who become addicted to gambling, it is a nightmare.

Some in this room have known someone who has destroyed their lives gambling. Nothing is more financially destructive as compulsive gambling. last week while at a Gambling Behavior Conference in Chicago, a letter was received from President Clinton congratulating our National Council for its work and added that someone in his family was a compulsive gambler. Most gamblers are normally protected by their families until they are drained of everything they have. Compulsive gambling is a hidden addiction. You can't smell it, taste it, or see it. We need to educate our citizens and then maybe some won't have to get to the point of no return.

Compulsive gambling is at our doorsteps, in our homes, schools and in the workplace. Our youngsters are the most vulnerable. Gambling is so accepted that a grandmother would not consider buying a grandchild a bottle of scotch for their 12th birthday but wouldn't hesitate to buy them lottery tickets. Many high schools on prom night,, to keep these teens away from alcohol and drugs, will hold a casino night. Some of these kids will develop into compulsive gamblers. Putting up little signs "you must be 18 to play" does not help. We need to do more. Even some in the industry do not understand what must be done. They are frustrated and concerned about this problem. Ladbrokes racing's John Long, president learned about our organization and contacted us to join together to work toward a future goal of developing programs for employees and management in order to understand and help. Harrahs has also stepped forward in the past. We at one point may have had to shun down our Helpline but thanks to the help of these two in the gaming industry, we are still helping compulsive gamblers.

Chuck Kline of the Lottery in his address to this committee, stated that 2% of 7% of our citizens are compulsive gamblers. This confirms many surveys taken over the years including one taken by the National School Board Association. With over 12 million population in our state and we take a modest figure of 3%, we come up with 360,000 compulsive gamblers including those at risks. Each compulsive gambler effects 6 to 8 others, family, friends and in the workplace. Some will commit crimes to support their gambling addiction. Marital and child abuse rises among the gamblers. Broken homes

and closed businesses, false insurance claims and tax evasion are some of the serious results from compulsive gambling. Mr. Kline also stated that his lottery is different than other types of gambling. "It's slower." this statement might be true, except for the compulsive gambler it is just as devastating as any form of gambling. We have also noticed that since the lottery has installed lottery terminals in most outlets throughout our state, phone calls pertaining to the lottery has risen. These machines are unmanned. unsupervised and very visible to our children. Many are playing the Lottery after school, some do not eat lunch due the dream of hitting the Lottery. Some do not understand how someone could give up food for an addiction; but have no doubt it happens. I agree that most of these children will not really show signs of compulsive gambling until they grow in the workplace and then graduate to sports, racing or the casinos. We tend to be very concerned about Camel Joe and how these ads might sway our children to smoke. Have you ever seen the ads for the lottery, race tracks or casinos? We have found that more children are gambling than drinking, smoking or doing drugs. They are starting at an earlier age. It might be easy to blame parents. "They should watch their kids. They should take responsibility." What responsibility are we going to take? It would be cost effective and good business to address this issue now.

Mayor Rendall in his statement to a hearing held in Philadelphia said "there is nothing we can do to stop compulsive gamblers when they want to gamblers." "I would be supportive of funding programs that would address this problem." He said exactly what we are saying. The problem is here and has been for a long time. Now let's try to do something to help. Prevention through education and awareness, having a referral base and trained professionals who can recognize and treat those in need.

this is the only addictive activity that our state promotes with advertising. Many good programs are supported through the financial gain of gambling. We understand how important these services are. We need to look at what services are needed and can be provided for compulsive gamblers and their families. According to our phone records in 1993 - 3,609, in 1994 - 3,514 and in 1995 - 6,342 citizens called for help. In 1996 the

number of callers will be greater. Phil Satre of Harrahs at the hearing in Harrisburg, mentioned sponsoring a 30 second public service announcement for television for our council. We are limited to the markets we can release this spot to. We simply cannot afford to financially support the calls that will be developed through this spot. Mailing of information packets is another expense we must consider. We need to expand this PSA to the entire state.

We speak at a limited amount of middle and high schools as well as colleges throughout our state. One of the questions asked during our presentations to this population is "How many of you gamble?" Normally over 65% admit to gambling. A percentage of these kids will become addicted. If anyone on the committee would like to choose a school in your district and set up a gambling education program and have me speak while you observe, I have no doubt that over 65% will admit to gambling.

I would like to take a minute to advise you of some of the results of compulsive gambling to some of our fellow citizens. A liquor control officer sent me a letter he confiscated from a raid on a local tavern. It said "Here is some of the money I owe you. I am quitting school and will work to pay you the balance." This was from a 17 year old to his bookie. Or the mother who found her 27 year old son in their garage, with a hose in the gas pipe of the care and was dead. His gambling habit became to much for him. The lawyer who went to prison due to her gambling addiction. An ex-owner of the eagles who lost about 20 million dollars and his home due to his gambling addiction. A 15 year old who ran away from home after stealing repeatedly from his parents because he saw no way out. Another 15 year old who shot another teenager because of gambling loses. I could go on but time is not a luxury at the moment.

Many states such as Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Texas and Washington are supporting programs addressing the issue of compulsive gambling. We would some day like to see Pennsylvania financially support this growing problem. We

realize that the state cannot fix everyone's problems and maybe should not get involved in many of the issues facing society today but if the state is promoting and profiting from an addictive activity then it might make sense to address the issue. Cost effectively addiction counselors can be trained to add gambling to their programs already in progress. We must have more literature and services available for those in our state that need assistance. Consider how many wind up on our welfare rolls when gambling has taken everything. Rep. Kenny as sat with us and is very supportive of our council It is time to take ACTION.

We do not have time to touch on other gambling issues such as sports betting, internet gambling, bingo, etc.

We thank you for your time and attention. Have a great day!

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CHAPTER NINE

Problem Gambling Programs

Problem gambling programs in each state are listed below along with estimates of 1996 funding:

State	Organizations Addressing Problem Gambling Issues	1996 Funding (Estimated)	State Programs
Alabama	None known		
Alaska	None known		
Arizona	Arizona Council on Compulsive Gambling	\$20,000 from Harrah's	 Prevention, education, training Helpline
Arkansas	None known		-
California	California Council on Compulsive Gambling		 Hotline Collaboration with a school system to include gambling awareness in the curriculum Prevention, education, training
	California Card Club Association		GA Brochures in card clubs
Colorado	 Colorado Council on Compulsive Gambling Casino Owners Assoc. of Colorado 	\$100,000 proposed	Statewide prevalence study
Connecticut	Connecticut Council on Compulsive Gambling	\$200,000 from Massantucket Pequots	 24-hour hotline Joint effort with Foxwoods on problem gambling and underage issues Created two education/training videos Collaboration to publicize hotline number Prevention, education
	Connecticut Compulsive Gambling Treatment Program	\$160,000 from a surcharge on the parimutuels; \$100,000 additional funding from state	• Three outpatient treatment programs
Delaware	Delaware Council on Gambling Problems	\$150,000 from lottery advertising budget; \$100,000 or 1% of slot revenue,whichever is greater	 Funding for information and referral programs
District of Columbia	None known		

State	Organizations Addressing Problem Gambling Issues	1996 Funding (Estimated)	State Programs
Florida	Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling	\$98,500 from advertising budget of state lottery; \$25,000 from dog tracks, tribes & Council memberships	 Education, prevention Hotline
Georgia	Georgia Department of Human Resources	Unclaimed prize money from lottery (not to exceed \$250,000)	• Hotline
Hawaii	None known		
Idaho	None known		
Illinois	Illinois Council on Problem and Compulsive Gambling Illinois Riverboat Gaming Association	\$500,000 from IRGA	 Hotline # on all lottery outlets, entrances, exits and credit locations of casinos, all gaming machines & paper stock Bet Smart & Project 21 in riverboats Funding of hotline Intervention, intake & referral; crisis services
Indiana	Governor's Task Force on Addictions Indiana Division of Mental Health	10% of riverboat admissions tax to Division of Mental Health-of this, 25% is required to be used for gambling services	 Community education 800 hotline on all paper, slots
Iowa '	Iowa Problem Gambling Council Iowa Gambling Treatment Program Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission	\$2.2 million total from: 3/10 of 1% of lottery sales;.3% of Adjusted Gross Revenues from riverboats and slot machines at racetracks	Casinos display posters, brochures Lottery publishes hotline # on all materials Hotline Eight outpatient counseling centers Prevention, education, training Advertisements on TV, radio & billboards in multi-state region
Kansas	None known		
Kentucky	Kentucky Council on Compulsive Gambling	Money from track	 Hotline Local referral Prevention, training & education Brochure on Churchill Downs Web site
Louisiana	Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling	\$10,000 Harrahs \$10,000 Horseshoe	Training for counselors Limited education and prevention
	Louisiana Riverboat Gaming Association	,	
	Office of Mental Health	\$600,000	Hotline Statewide prevalence survey
Maine	None known		 Informational brochures printed by state

State	Organizations Addressing Problem Gambling Issues	1996 Funding (Estimated)	State Programs
Maryland	Maryland Council on Compulsive Gambling	\$0	800 # on lottery tickets Hotline Development and distribution of awarenes program to schools
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling	Unclaimed prize funds (appropriated by state legislature, between \$250,000 and \$500,000 over each of the last five years); \$100,000 from parimutuel breakage	Hotline Educational materials, community outreach, workshops & courses, PSA's, ads & poster campaign on public transportation Development of gambling awareness curriculum with Department of Education Posting of information or minimum age on all lottery outlets Funding of outpatient treatment center
Michigan		\$700,000 (10% of lottery advertising budget, not to exceed \$1 million)	800 # posted in casinos and on lottery tickets Statewide study Setting up an entity to address compulsive gambling issues and provide treatment on a statewide level
Minnesota	 Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling Department of Human Services Advisory Gambling Committee Minnesota Planning Commission Minnesota Indian Gaming Association 	\$2.6 million biennial appropriation from state; \$200,000 from MIGA; \$500,000 from other tribal & private funding sources	 Hotline by Minnesota Institute of Public Health Hotline by Minnesota Council on Compulsive Gambling PSA's for radio & TV Brochures, posters, T-shirts for schools Six outpatient treatment centers Prevention, education, training
Mississippi	 Mississippi Council on Compulsive Gambling Mississippi Department of Health Mississippi Gaming Association 	\$300,000	 Project 21, Bet Smart in riverboat casinos Workshop & survey of state efforts
Missouri	Missouri Riverboat Gaming Association	\$1 million from MRGA	Hotline Bet Smart, Project 21 in riverboat casinos
	Missouri Department of Mental Health	\$250,000 from cities to state department of mental health; Portion of \$1.00 admission fee may also go to compulsive gambling programs	• Prevention, education
Montana	None known		

State	Organizations Addressing Problem Gambling Issues	1996 Funding (Estimated)	State Programs
Nebraska	 Nebraska Council on Compulsive Gambling Governor's Advisory Council on Compulsive Gambling 	\$200,000 {1% of lottery funds} are used for grants	Hotline Prevention, education, training
Nevada	Nevada Council on Compulsive Gambling	\$300,000 (including in- kind donations) from casinos and other entities	 Prevention, education, training
New Hampshire	None known		
New Jersey	Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey Casino Association of New Jersey	\$75,000 from fines levied against casinos	 Hotline Training sessions for lottery agents & re-licensing of alcohol/drug abuse counselors 800# on all casino advertisements, lottery terminals Insert in all state employee checks Development of awareness programs for schools
New Mexico	New Mexico Department of Health, Gambling Issues Workgroup		Developing a state plan of action
New York	New York Council on Problem Gambling New York Office of Mental Health	\$1.5 million to office of mental health; \$350,000 one-time rollover of previous unspent funds	Six treatment programs, one education/referral center Hotline Hotline # on all lottery tickets Signs in all racing & wagering locations Prevention, education, training Statewide media campaign
North Carolina	None known		
North Dakota	Council on Compulsive and Problem Gambling of North Dakota		Clearinghouse for educational materials & toll-free information line Underage video Peer education and other materials for schools
Ohio	Ohio Council on Problem Gambling		Hotline run by lottery
Oklahoma	None known		
Oregon	Oregon Council on Problem Gambling	\$3 million (3% of revenues from Video Lottery Terminals)	Treatment programs Information on programs placed in all VLT location Hotline Prevention, education
Pennsylvania	Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania	\$10,000 from Pennsylvania Racing Commission \$3,800 (Harrahs) \$1,000 (Grand) \$5,000 state grant	Outreach to school administrators PSA's Prevention, education, training

State	Organizations Addressing Problem Gambling Issues	1996 Funding (Estimated)	State Programs
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Council on Problem Gambling		 Outreach to head start, middle and high schools Hotline
South Carolina	None known		
South Dakota	 South Dakota Council on Problem Gambling Deadwood Gaming Association South Dakota Department of Mental Health 	\$200,000 appropriation from VLT operating budget	 Six state supported mental health treatment facilities Hotline Signage for VLT location PSA's Brochures & presentation to schools
Tennessee	None known		
Texas	Texas Council on Compulsive Gambling Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse	\$4 million (from state-appropriations and 1/4 of 1% of simulcast revenue): \$2 million to Council, \$2 million to Commission	 Help message & hotline on all lottery materials Extensive prevention, education & training 26 outpatient centers Certification of compulsive gambling counselors Training sessions on compulsive gambling for re-licensing of counselors
Utah	None known		
Vermont	None known		
Virginia	None known		
Washington	Washington State Council on Compulsive Gambling Washington Gaming Commission Washington Lottery Commission	\$100,000 from Gaming Commission; \$5,000 from Lottery for hotline; \$40,000 from other industry sources	Joint information brochure Helpline Prevention, education, training Statewide ads Signage in casinos, lottery locations and horsetracks Youth awareness program Prison project pilot program
Vest Virginia	None known		
Visconsin	Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling	\$35,000 from Oneida Tribe	Hotline PSA's Prevention, education
Vyoming	None known		

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