2022 -- S 2496 SUBSTITUTE A

LC005204/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - VIDEO-LOTTERY GAMES, TABLE GAMES AND SPORTS WAGERING

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, Lombardo, and F Lombardi

Date Introduced: March 01, 2022

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-61.2-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-61.2 entitled "Video

2 Lottery Games, Table Games and Sports Wagering" is hereby amended to read as follows:

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42-61.2-14. Compulsive and problem gambling programs.

4 The Division and the state acknowledge that the vast majority of gaming patrons can enjoy 5 gambling games responsibly, but that there are certain societal costs associated with gaming by 6 some individuals who have problems handling the product or services provided. The Division and 7 the State further understand that it is their duty to act responsibly toward those who cannot 8 participate conscientiously in gaming. Pursuant to the foregoing, Twin River and Twin River-9 Tiverton, in cooperation with the State, shall offer compulsive and problem gambling programs 10 that include, but are not limited to (a) Problem gambling awareness programs for employees; (b) 11 Player self-exclusion program; and (c) Promotion of a problem gambling hotline. Twin River and 12 Twin River-Tiverton shall modify their existing compulsive and problem-gambling programs to include table games and sports wagering to the extent such games are authorized at such facilities. 13 14 Twin River and Twin River-Tiverton shall reimburse and pay to the Division no less than two 15 hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) in aggregate annually for compulsive and problem gambling programs established by the Division. The contribution from each facility shall be determined by 16 the Division. A person who is prohibited from gaming in a gaming establishment due to the player 17 18 self-exclusion program shall not collect any winnings or recover losses arising as a result of

- 1 prohibited gaming activity by said person. Winnings from self-excluded person, after the deduction
- 2 of taxes and other applicable withholdings, shall be forfeited to the division. The division shall
- 3 forward such forfeited winnings, up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) per year to
- 4 the Rhode Island Council on problem gambling for its use for research, education and prevention
- 5 of teenage gambling addiction, with the balance to be transferred by the division to the general
- 6 <u>fund.</u>
- 7 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - VIDEO-LOTTERY GAMES, TABLE GAMES AND SPORTS WAGERING

This act would provide procedures to prevent gaming patrons prohibited from gaming in a
gaming establishment from collecting winnings, or recovering losses and would provide that any
winnings achieved, after taxes, be forfeited to the division with the forfeited winnings being
forwarded to the Rhode Island Council on Problem Gambling up to \$150,000.
This act would take effect upon passage.

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