
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 381 (File 158, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT REQUIRING PROGRAMS CONCERNING PROBLEM GAMBLING AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires public higher education institutions to provide an on-campus problem gambling program at least once each academic year. The program must have information about on-campus and community resources that treat and rehabilitate problem gambling. Under the bill, "problem gambling" is compulsive gambling or an uncontrollable urge to continue gambling regardless of its negative impacts on the person's life.

The bill permits an institution to contract with a nonprofit organization for this program, and the institution can give priority to a nonprofit organization that receives funds from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' (DMHAS) compulsive gamblers treatment and rehabilitation program. By law, this DMHAS program gives funding to regional behavioral health action organizations and nonprofit organizations, including the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling.

*Senate Amendment "A" permits, rather than requires, a contracting institution to give priority to a nonprofit organization receiving DMHAS funding.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 1 (03/12/2026)