



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Committee Bill No. 736**

LCO No. 4001

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Introduced by:  
(PS)

***AN ACT INCREASING THE FUNDING FOR THE CONNECTICUT  
COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (a) of section 17a-713 of the general statutes is repealed  
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall  
4 establish a program for the treatment and rehabilitation of compulsive  
5 gamblers in the state. The program shall provide prevention, treatment  
6 and rehabilitation services for chronic gamblers. The department may  
7 enter into agreements with subregional planning and action councils  
8 and nonprofit organizations to assist in providing these services,  
9 provided not less than twenty-five per cent of the amount received  
10 pursuant to section 12-818 annually shall be set aside for contracts with  
11 subregional planning and action councils established pursuant to  
12 section 17a-671 and nonprofit organizations and not less than [five] ten  
13 per cent of the amount received pursuant to section 12-818 annually  
14 shall be set aside for a contract with the Connecticut Council on  
15 Problem Gambling. The department may impose a reasonable fee, on a  
16 sliding scale, on those participants who can afford to pay for any such

17 services. The department shall implement such program when the  
18 account established under subsection (b) of this section is sufficient to  
19 meet initial operating expenses. As used in this section "chronic  
20 gambler" means a person who is chronically and progressively  
21 preoccupied with gambling and the urge to gamble, and with  
22 gambling behavior that compromises, disrupts or damages personal,  
23 family or vocational pursuits.

**PS**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

**PH**