

General Law Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5269

AN ACT CONCERNING GAMING ADVERTISEMENTS AND PERMISSIBLE

Title: PAYMENT MECHANISMS FOR ONLINE GAMING ACCOUNTS.

Vote Date: 3/21/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/12/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL

Rep. David Rutigliano, 123rd District

REASONS FOR BILL

Representative Rutigliano initially proposed this bill to address certain aspects of problem gambling behavior. After hearing stories from people who were unaware that their spouses accumulated sizeable gambling debts on jointly held credit cards, Rep. Rutigliano proposed language to address this scenario. House Bill 5269 would require gaming operators to obtain consent from all account holders before permitting wagering on a jointly held account. In addition, this legislation intends to address problem gambling by prohibiting online gaming providers from offering financial incentives that encourage gambling.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY

[Frank Suarez, President and CEO, Connecticut Lottery Corporation \(CLC\)](#) provided general comments on HB 5269. While CLC supports the bill's intent, they express concern regarding technical challenges related to implementation. Mr. Suarez explains that per banking industry standard, CLC and its partners do not receive information about account holders. He states that the proposed changes would cause gaming providers to stop accepting debit and credit cards, negatively impacting the state's revenue. Similarly, he maintains that the proposed advertising restrictions would also prove detrimental to CLC's ability to raise revenue for the state.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT

[Diana Goode, Executive Director, Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling](#) supports HB 5269's prohibition of gaming incentives. She notes that targeted gaming incentives can

disproportionately impact those who are already engaging in problem gambling. Ms. Goode characterizes this provision as providing important protections to consumers in Connecticut.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION

[Richard Roberts, President, Mohegan Digital](#)
[Brandt Iden, VP Government Affairs, Fanatics](#)
[David Prestwood, DraftKings Inc.](#)

[Michael Ventre, Senior Manager, State Government Relations, Fan Duel](#)

These individuals submitted similar testimony in opposition to HB 5269. They maintain that the proposed requirement that all account holders approve a deposit would be unenforceable due to technological limits of banking systems. In addition, they argue that the proposed elimination of promotional credits would reduce revenue to legal operators.

GENERAL COMMENTS

[Jody Cummings, General Counsel, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation](#) submitted written testimony that does not specifically state a position on HB 5269. However, the testimony raises the same concerns as above.

Reported by: Betsy Francolino

Date: March 25, 2025