



**Written Statement of Cole Wogoman
Director, Policy and Partnerships
National Council on Problem Gambling**

**Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
Regulation # 125-258
July 29, 2026**

Dear Robert Wood and Members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board:

I write on behalf of the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG), the sole national advocate for those suffering from a gambling problem and their loved ones, to submit brief comments on Regulation # 125-258, which provides updates to rules around problem gambling in the state. NCPG's mission is to lead state and national stakeholders in the development of comprehensive policy and programs for all those affected by problem gambling. Our vision is to improve health and wellness by reducing the personal, social, and economic costs of problem gambling. NCPG is neither for nor against legalized gambling, and our members include 35 state affiliate chapters, including the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania. NCPG has operated the National Problem Gambling Helpline™ for over 30 years.

NCPG is largely supportive of these proposed rule changes. Nearly all represent a step in the right direction of protecting player health and safety. Two that we would like to especially praise are the changes included at 501a.7 regarding advertising and the provisions in 814a.1.

The changes included at 501a.7 put substantive restrictions in place on advertising. Too often, laws and regulations seek to limit advertising but do not put concrete rules in place that can be enforced. These changes have the required specificity. For instance, the provision banning advertisements on mediums where the majority of the audience is below legal age to participate is a clear rule for operators. We do question the change that would reduce the size of the gambling assistance messages on billboards from 5% to 2% of the height and width of the billboard. Absent a compelling reason, and we cannot think of none, we do not support that change. Outside of that, we urge the PGCB not to dilute the provisions of this section.

Second, 814a.1 adds much needed rules around required in-app messaging. We appreciate the requirement that a player take an active step to dismiss a notification. We would also encourage the PGCB to make limit setting (both time and amount) the default for new accounts. Limit setting features may be disabled, but they should be on at account creation rather than require the player to proactively take the step. We would also note that while we understand the problem gambling helpline number used in the regulations is legislatively mandated, the National



Problem Gambling Helpline™ has recently transitioned to 1-800-MY-RESET, and that number should be permitted to be promoted where allowed by statute.

Finally, we also encourage you to read the comments of our Pennsylvania affiliate, the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania. Their expertise on problem gambling in the state and their familiarity with state laws and rules should be taken into account every step of the way when updating problem gambling rules and regulations.

If you have any questions about the recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments.

Sincerely,

Cole Wogoman
Director, Policy and Partnerships
National Council on Problem Gambling