



Minnesota Alliance
on Problem Gambling

February 18, 2025

Chair Hoffman
Senate Human Services Committee

Minnesota Alliance on Problem Gambling (MNAPG) is the state affiliate to the National Council on Problem Gambling. Our joint missions are to minimize the harms that individuals and families experience due to gambling disorder. Over 250,000 Minnesotans indicate a problem with gambling as well as 6000 high school students.

MNAPG relies heavily on funding from the state to support its advocacy, prevention, training and research we provide to thousands of Minnesotans. Since 2005 MNAPG has received an annual grant of \$225,000. The governor's budget has eliminated this funding for FY 26 and FY 27. We ask that it be reinstated.

MNAPG's budget was also reduced in the 2024 session, when tax reform was made to charitable gambling as a result of the lawsuit pertaining to electronic pull tabs. We anticipate an additional loss of 25% to our overall budget. As you may be aware, there are no federal dollars allocated for problem gambling, nor is it a cause that most foundations are willing to fund.

We are the sole statewide organization that works in support of those negatively impacted by gambling addiction. Our overall budget is less than \$1,000,000 per year and losing almost half of our budget will severely limit our ability to offer the services and programs we have dedicated ourselves to since 2001. It's already a challenge to increase public awareness within our existing budget as we deal with rising costs passed along by our vendors. Without continued state support, we cannot effectively fulfill our mission.

We respectfully ask you to reinstate our funding.

Sincerely,
Susan Sheridan Tucker
Executive Director
Minnesota Alliance on Problem Gambling