

**Report on Compulsive Gambling  
FY 04 Appropriations Boilerplate Section 313**

Section 313 states “By November 1, 2003, the department shall report to the house of representatives and senate appropriations subcommittees on community health, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on activities undertaken by the department to address compulsive gambling”.

The following activities were undertaken in FY2003 to address compulsive gambling:

**Help-line** - The toll free gambling help-line (800-270-7117) was continued in FY03. The purpose of the toll free number is to provide an assessment and to make referral services. The toll free number was publicized on billboards, in literature and on the back-side of lottery tickets. During FY03, the help-line received 27,768 calls; 1,291 callers were referred to treatment and 1,987 were referred to Gamblers Anonymous or Gamanon (for those concerned about friends/family members with gambling problems). Approximately 13,000 calls were for lottery ticket information. The remaining calls were wrong numbers, hang-ups and requests for general information.

**Treatment** – A statewide network of 50 licensed clinicians who have both experience and special training in treating pathological gamblers and their families was maintained and remains available to provide counseling services. These clinicians provided individual and group treatment. During FY03, a total of 393 (30% of those referred) individuals were admitted to treatment.

**Education** – As part of the Michigan Model for Comprehensive School Health, a middle school and high school gambling curriculum was developed and piloted in 12 classrooms. The curriculum focuses on identifying what gambling behaviors to avoid and those negative gambling messages that encourage youth to gamble. Over 1,500 students participated in the gambling curriculum. All students took pre- and post-tests. There was a 40% increase in recognition of gambling messages.

**Advertising** – Messages were viewed approximately 442 million times in FY03. Advertising included:

Outdoor advertising:

26 billboards

22 bus backs

Media ads (radio and television)

5,778 spots

Brochures available in English, Arabic and Spanish were made available as well. A total of 11,458 were distributed statewide.