



Madison Brame

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To: GB, PGCB Regulations
Subject: Regulation # 125-250 - public comment

Importance: High

The Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs would like to submit a public comment:

Individuals who choose to enroll in self-exclusion have acknowledged that they have a gambling problem and feel that self-excluding from gambling will assist in their long-term recovery from problem gambling. Individuals in recovery from problem gambling are often intimidated to sign up for a lifetime commitment to self-exclude. They find it more acceptable for them to choose a 1- or 5-year commitment, while also knowing that those terms will not expire if they do not want them to. Automatically removing an individual from a self-exclusion list, without them requesting it, may lead to relapse from problem gambling recovery. Relapse from a gambling disorder can be devastating and leads to problems with finances, relationships, legal conflicts, and even suicidal ideation.

DDAP recommends that the self-exclusion lists for Casinos is kept as an active removal process, granting an individual the autonomy to make their own decision in removing themselves from the list when their term expires. In addition, DDAP recommends changing the other self-exclusion lists for Video Gaming Terminals, Fantasy gaming, and Interactive gaming to an active removal process instead of the current automatic removal process. This will ensure individuals will not be removed from the self-exclusion list until they make the decision to remove themselves.

Please advise if you need anything further from me at this time, thank you!

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