



J. WALKER GREEN  
GOVERNOR

## STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

### **Bill No. 164 – To construct a regulatory framework for the legalization of sports betting and other addictive substances and services while drastically minimizing the risk of addiction.**

The Administration strongly supports the South Carolina Student Legislature's bill to regulate and legalize sports betting within the state of South Carolina. The Honorable Representative Sam Maloney has presented legislation aligned with the Administration's focus on the legalization of sports betting. This bill represents an important step toward modernizing the state's approach to gambling, ensuring both a regulated market and a sustainable framework for its operation.

#### Legalization of Sports Betting

The Administration is committed to creating a responsible, regulated framework for sports betting that promotes consumer protection while also generating new revenue streams for the state. This bill introduces important safeguards, including mandatory identification verification for bettors, transparent records of all betting transactions, and restrictions on betting amounts to ensure responsible gambling.

#### Economic Opportunity

The bill provides a clear structure for revenue sharing, requiring betting entities to remit a significant portion of their gross revenues to the state, ensuring that funds are directed to South Carolina's General Fund. This revenue is critical for supporting essential state services, especially as the funds will be directly allocated to supporting state programs.

#### Regulatory Oversight

The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) will play a central role in overseeing this new industry, with the bill empowering DLLR to license and regulate sports betting

providers. The Administration supports the inclusion of a licensing process that ensures only vetted and reputable entities are allowed to operate within the state. The bill also includes provisions for robust monitoring of betting activity, including maintaining a centralized clearinghouse for tracking bets. This is a necessary step to prevent fraud, money laundering, and to protect consumers.

IF THIS BILL WERE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR IN ITS CURRENT FORM, HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY SIGN IT INTO LAW.

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