



April 16, 2026

The State of Nevada  
Legislative Counsel Bureau  
Interim Finance Committee

Re: Support for item I 27, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's request for additional federal Nevada State Opioid Response (SOR) Application grant funds

Chair Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop and Members of the Interim Finance Committee,

My name is Dr. Jeff Marotta, President and Senior Consultant with Problem Gambling Solutions. I am writing in support of Item I-27, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's request to allocate approximately \$21 million in federal Nevada State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funds to continue supporting a comprehensive response to the opioid epidemic.

I would like to highlight one of the innovative programs funded through these SOR grants: GRASP (Gambling Resource and Support Program for Opioid Treatment Programs).

GRASP exemplifies the integration of research, emerging technology, and cross-disciplinary collaboration to improve treatment outcomes through innovation. Research conducted within Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) has identified a high prevalence of co-occurring gambling problems among patients. Despite this, gambling behaviors are rarely addressed in OTP settings, often leading to poorer outcomes.

GRASP aims to improve OTP outcomes by directly addressing these co-occurring gambling-related issues. A key component of the program is a digital healthcare platform accessible via apps and websites. This platform provides OTP staff and patients with targeted education and practical tools designed to address the interaction between gambling behaviors and opioid and stimulant use.

This initiative demonstrates Nevada's commitment to innovation and its willingness to pursue forward-thinking solutions to complex public health challenges. By documenting the outcomes of this program, Nevada can strengthen its addiction treatment system and potentially serve as a national model for integrated care across substance use and behavioral addictions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Marotta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Marotta, Ph.D.