

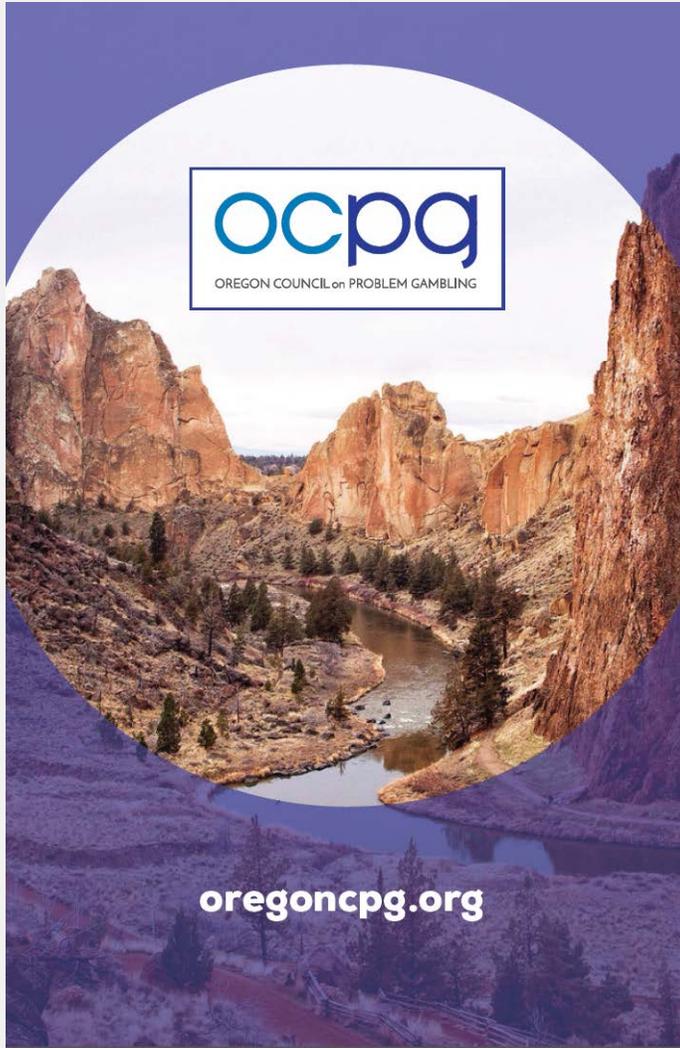
oregoncpg.org

Gambling in Oregon: Issues & Needed Changes

House Committee on
General Government
Informational Meeting

May 18, 2021

About Us



Mission

To promote the health of Oregonians through supporting efforts to minimize gambling-related harm.

We believe in the values of:

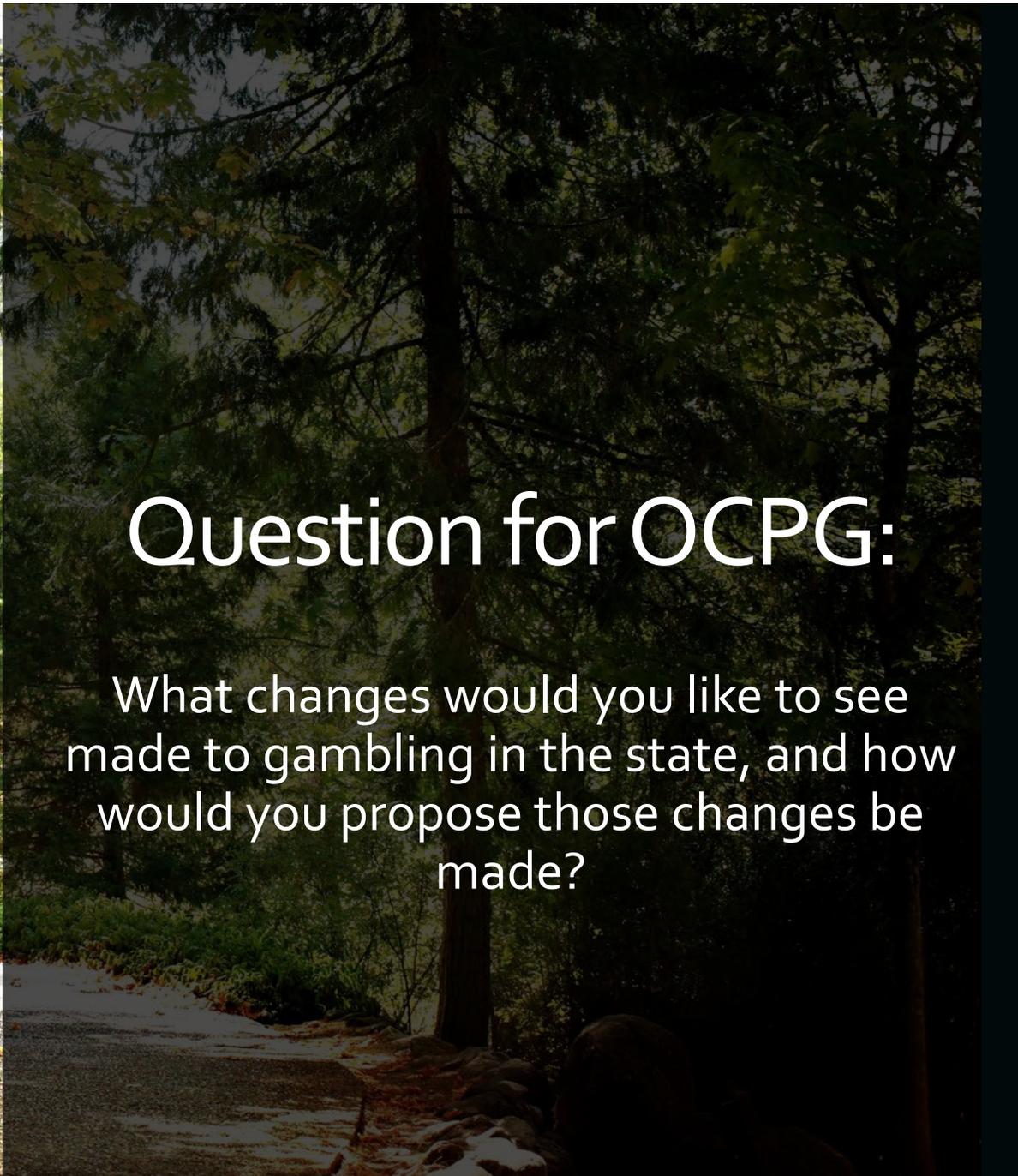
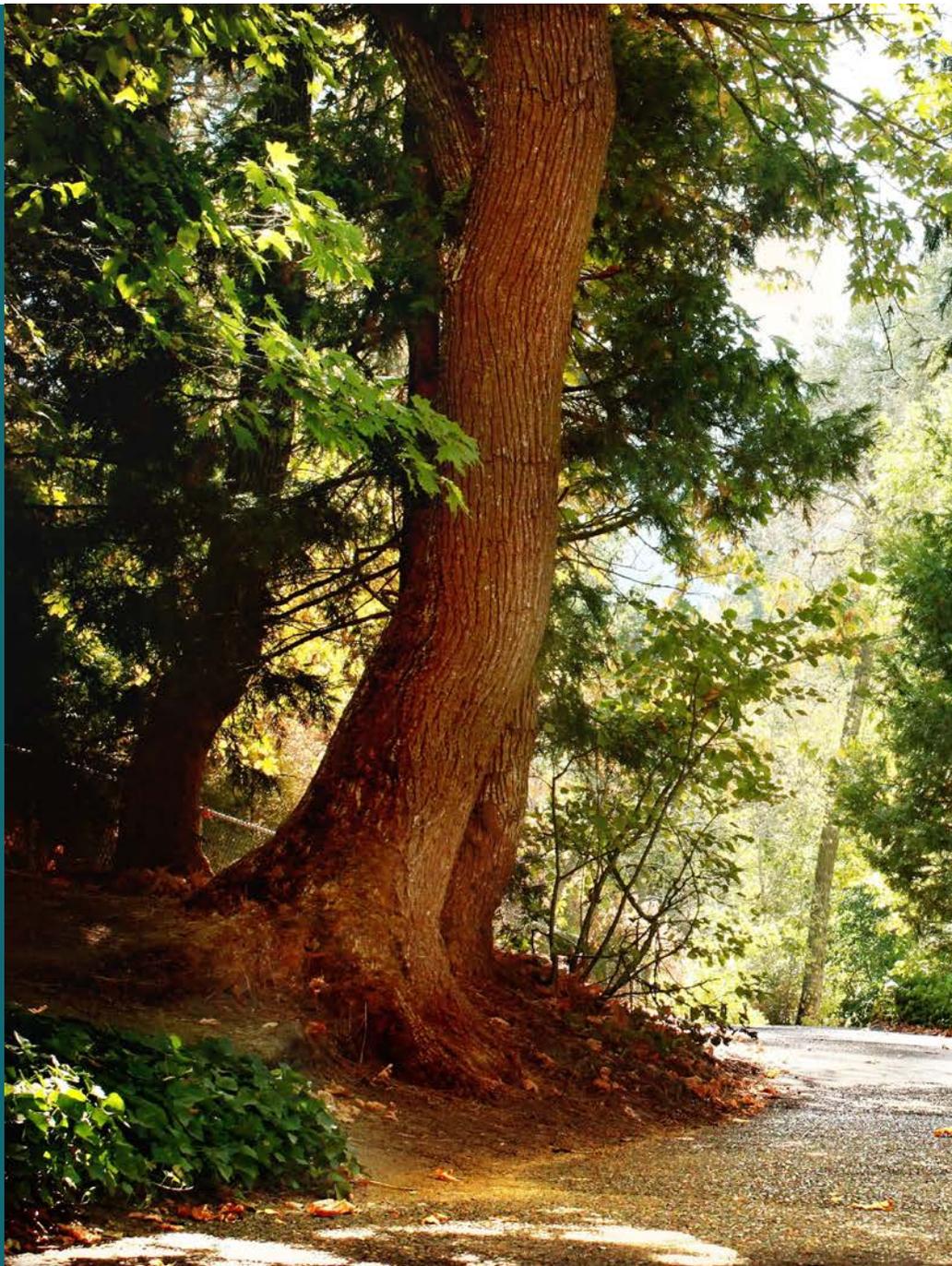
- Collaboration and stakeholder development
- Open and transparent agency communication
- An informed public and industry
- Providing accurate and timely gambling information
- Inclusivity

About Me



Jeffrey Marotta, PhD

- OCPG Board Member
- President & Senior Consultant, Problem Gambling Solutions, Inc.
- Past advisor to Governor's Office, MA Gaming Commission, and many other governmental agencies across U.S.
- *Dr. Marotta's disclosures related to professional relationships with Oregon entities:*
 - *Serves as Board of Directors Vice-Chair to Cascadia Whole Health Care*
 - *Currently under consultancy agreement with the Oregon Health Authority & Voices of Problem Gambling Recovery*
 - *Contacted by Oregon Racing Commission for consultancy services, no contract to date*
 - *Former consultant to the Oregon State Lottery*
 - *Limited engagements with b-Spot to provide employee responsible gambling trainings*



Question for OCPG:

What changes would you like to see made to gambling in the state, and how would you propose those changes be made?

Problems

To discuss needed changes, we must identify the problems:



Oregon's Rapidly Evolving Gambling has Unknown Consequences

- Cashless gambling
- Mobile gambling
- Sports betting
- Marketing



Gambling Related Harms

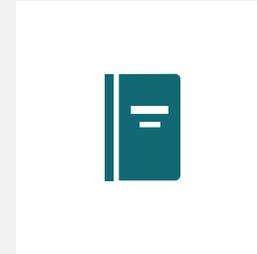
Harm to public health: 1 in 38 Oregonians struggle with a gambling problem; contributes to societal problems including intimate partner violence, child & elder abuse and neglect.

Harm to economy: Millions \$ of increased cost to criminal justice system, healthcare system, etc.



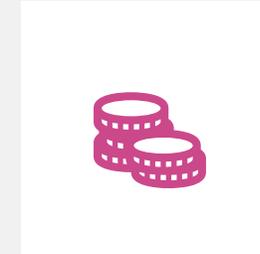
Gambling Regulatory Issues

- OSL: Self-regulated
- ORC: Pari-mutuel industry morphing
- Lack of independent gambling commission



Lack of Harm Mitigation Policy and Practice Standards

- Responsible gambling standards across Oregon's regulators and operators are not uniform
- Lack of statewide business plan or strategy to guide gambling related policy decisions



Fairness Issues

Gambling operators contribute vastly different amounts toward harm-mitigation

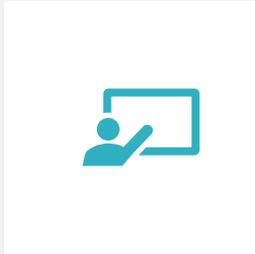
Competition for Oregonians spending on gambling. When one regulator allows expansion to one group of operators, may hurt other groups of operators



Pause

With so many unknowns, we need to pause:

- gambling expansion
- movement into new gambling markets
- implementing new technologies designed to increase time and money spent gambling



Study

We need to understand the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of Oregon's gambling policies and look to other jurisdictions for best practice approaches toward gambling policy, practice, and regulation.



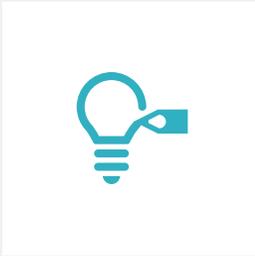
Plan

We need a roadmap for moving forward that takes into consideration the economic and recreational benefits of legalized gambling, the economic and human costs associated with it, and means to achieve a balanced approach that takes all stakeholders into consideration.

Solutions

"For every complex problem, there's a solution that is simple, neat, and wrong."

H.L. Mencken.



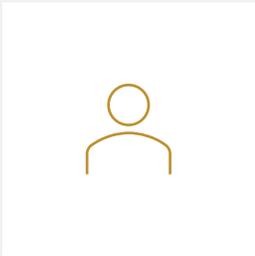
Invest in Public Health

Join the 1% for Responsible Gambling Initiative



Practice Standards

Adherence to industry responsible gambling standards should be required of all operators



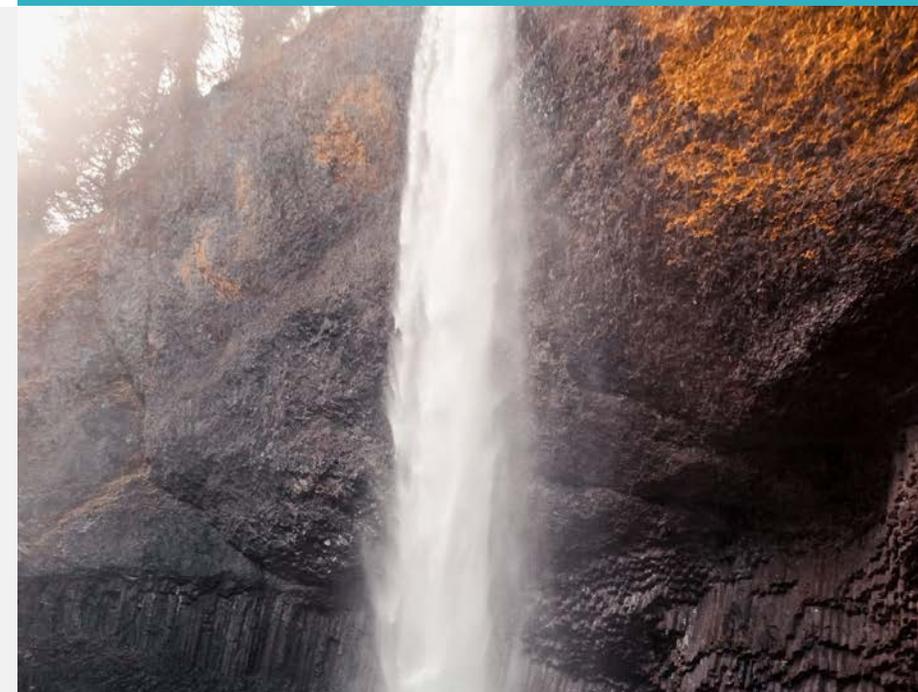
Protect Vulnerable Groups

Self exclusion; behavior analytics; informed consumers



Marketing

Marketing of gambling products need to be ethical and responsible



Responsible Gambling

A few components of an approach to making gambling fairer and safer.

GAMBLING
COMMISSION

National Strategic Assessment 2020

Making gambling fairer and safer

Our mission

Our mission is to make gambling fairer and safer. We do that by licensing and regulating in the public interest and providing advice and guidance.

Our vision

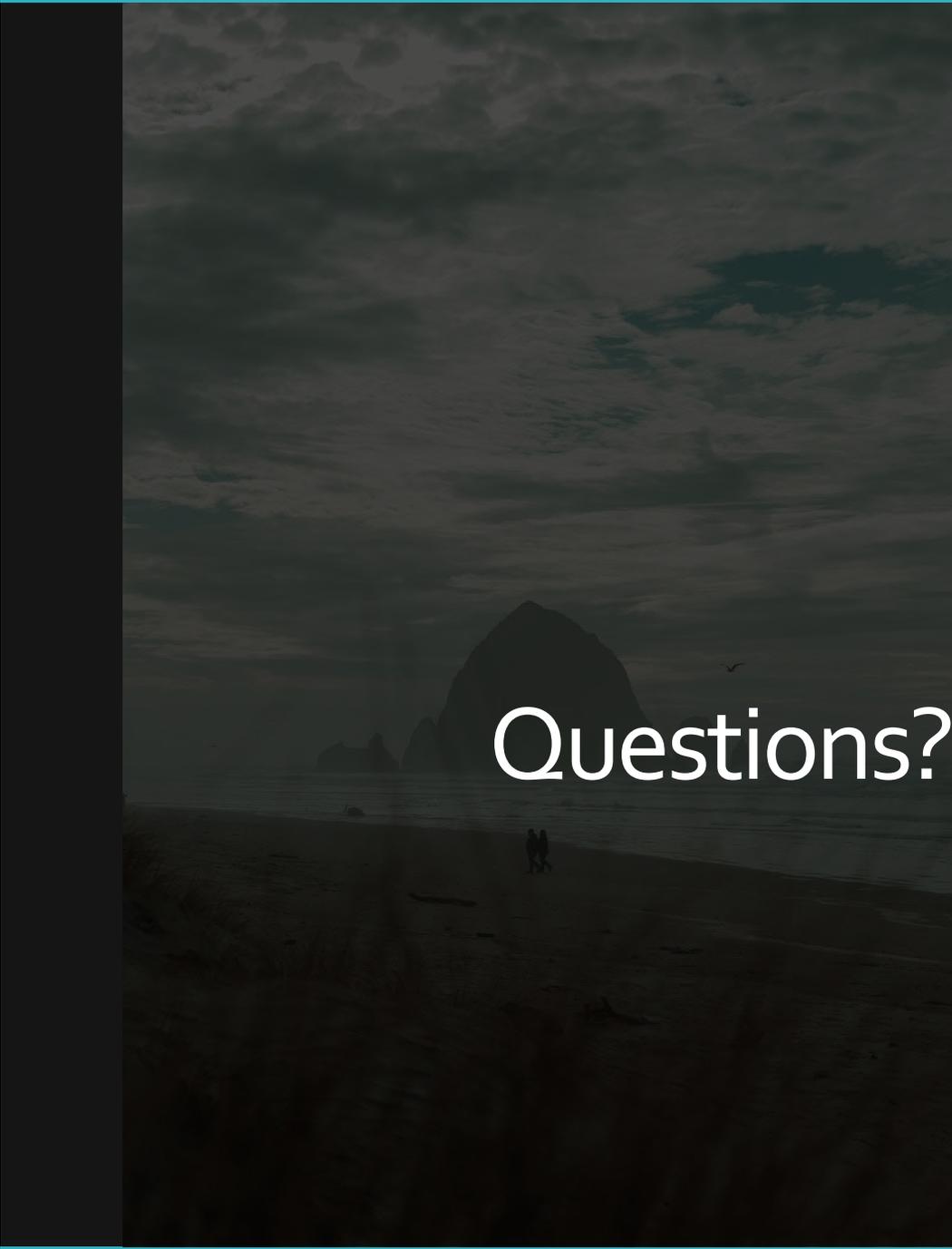
We want a fair and safe gambling market where all consumers and the interests of the wider public are protected.

A model regulatory approach?

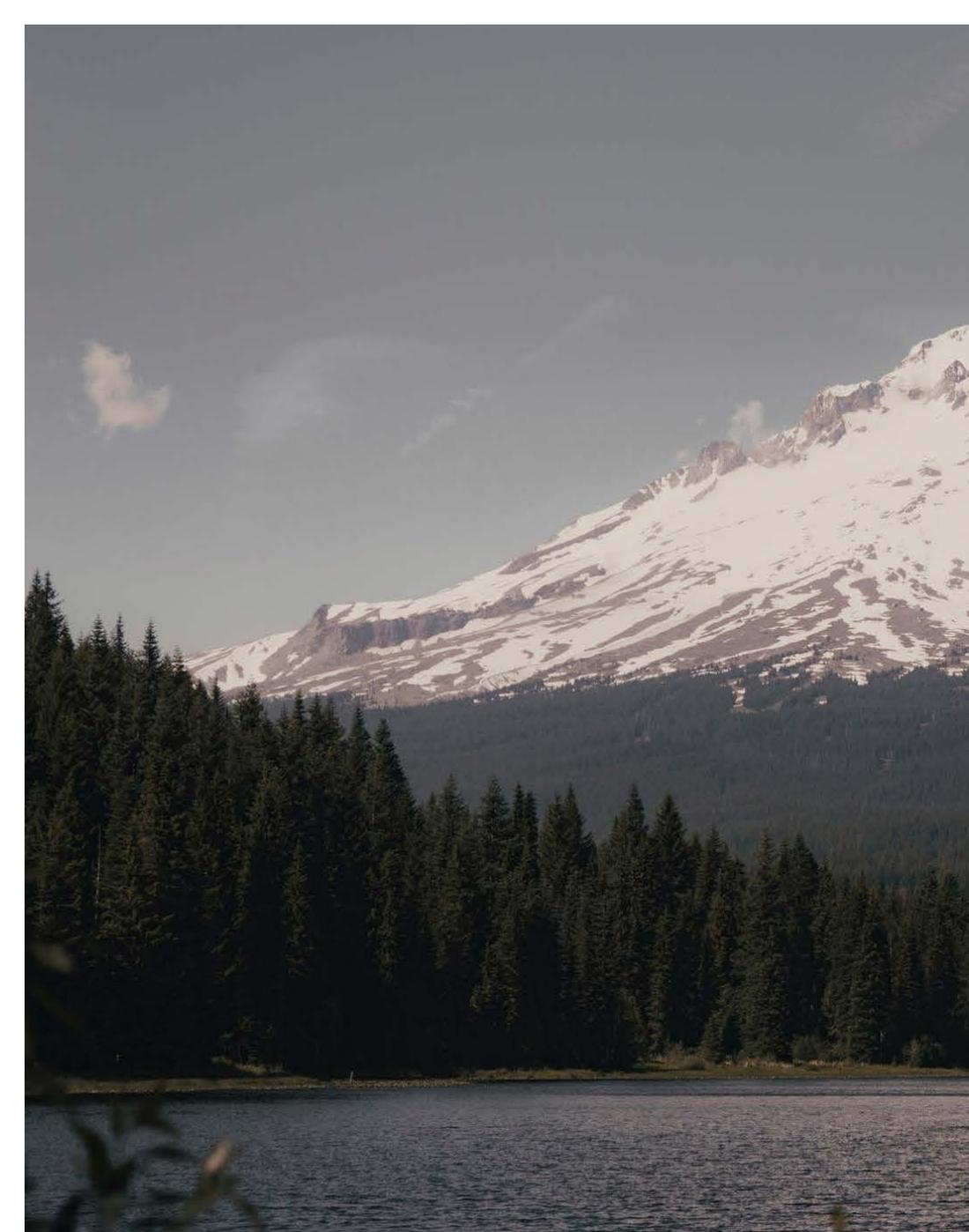
UK Gambling Commission

The Oregon Council on Problem Gambling appreciates the opportunity to share concerns and thoughts on Oregon's approach to gambling in our state.

I would be pleased to address questions you may have now or in the future.



Questions?



Thank You

Jeff Marotta, Ph.D. ICGC-II 

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