



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

March 31, 2014

Alcohol Action Alert

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

House Bill 4223 changes the designation of Poker Runs as a Raffle instead of a charitable gambling event. Participants travel-usually on motorcycles--to 5 or more predetermined locations-usually bars-where they draw a playing card to assemble a poker hand.

Motorcycle riders can die or receive severe injuries if they are involved in an alcohol-related crash. HB 4223 has the potential for bikers to drink and drive over the recommended level or legal limit for impairment, with stops at 5 bars. **Studies have shown that impairment begins with the first drink.**

HB 4223 could impact public safety. Legalizing poker runs as a Raffle could increase the number of poker runs statewide. **Gambling and alcohol are a volatile mix.** This could lead to an increase in drinking and driving, along with an increased risk for motorists in Illinois, motorcycle riders and their passengers.

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. Contact your State Representative by e-mail or phone the Switchboard operator at the Capitol (217-782-2000) to ask him/her to **Vote NO on HB 4223.**
2. **Forward to 10 others.**

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