



May 20, 2014 Gambling Action Alert



SB 1739 was scheduled for the House Executive Committee yesterday, but the bill was not called for a vote. Time is running out, as the Legislative session is scheduled to end on May 31st. However, the bill could be called for a vote in the House any time before the start of the next General Assembly in January, 2015.

Much work is done behind closed doors, and the vote will come very quickly. Fairmount Racetrack was not included in SB1739. The racetracks have said they would not support the bill unless all racetracks get slot machines so they can become land-based casinos. An amendment has been filed to put Fairmount in the bill. Rep. Robert Rita, sponsor of SB 1739, is concerned that the filing of so many localized amendments signaled unwillingness among state and local lawmakers to reach an agreement, reported the State Capitol Bureau..

Rep. Rita said, "It's not about just passing a bill and putting it on the governor's desk for him to veto. It's about passing a bill that's going to be signed."

Rep. Rita told the reporter, "it's important the proposal's issues get resolved because that's how House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, will judge whether to call the bill for a vote."

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. Contact your State Representative and Senator or call 217-782-2000 to ask them to Vote NO on SB 1739, the massive gambling expansion bill.
2. Contact Governor Quinn or call 800-642-3112 and tell him gambling is an unstable source of revenue. Ask the Governor to oppose SB 1739.
3. Write a Letter to the Editor to oppose more gambling. (Download a copy of Why Casinos Matter to use as talking points)
4. Share this alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY and CALL.
5. Forward to 10 others.