



September 19, 2014

Gambling Action Alert



Gubernatorial Candidates

Bruce Rauner said this week that he is not a fan of gambling or a plan to put slot machines at Chicago airports, but he wouldn't stand in the way of adding casinos if local communities support it, according to the Associated Press. Governor Quinn is open to gambling expansion "if it is done with strong oversight and ethical standards". [Read more:](#)

Collinsville City Council supports slots at racetrack

Many of the speakers who addressed the city council were from the group, Fairness for Fairmount, which is working to ensure the racetrack is included in the massive gambling expansion bill (SB 1739). Earlier this year, House Sponsor Robert Rita excluded the racetrack from the bill because of its close proximity to the casino in East St. Louis. [Read more:](#)

Video gambling in Laundromats

There are over 18,000 video gambling machines operating in Illinois bars, restaurants, bowling alleys and gas stations. Now Laundromats are applying for liquor licenses so they can put in video gambling machines for people to lose their money while they wash their clothes! [Read more:](#)

Video gambling/slot machines are designed to addict

A new report outlines the public health costs of gambling for the gambler, their families, and communities. Electronic gambling machines "are designed to addict their customers in a way similar to how the tobacco industry formulates its cigarettes to be addictive by manipulating their nicotine levels and other ingredients." [Read more:](#)

The former Village Clerk of Burnham stole nearly \$700,000 from the town, using much of the money to gamble at casinos. **She blamed the "proliferation of state-sanctioned gambling for her problems, saying you can't walk into a bar or restaurant without being tempted by slot machines and video poker."** [Read more:](#)

Video gambling referendum

The Illinois Gaming Machine Operators Association wants communities that banned video gambling

to revisit the issue. O'Fallon City Council passed an ordinance to ban video gambling and has kept the ban in place. Now a marketing specialist for the local bowling alley has spearheaded a petition drive to put a referendum on the November ballot to overturn the ban. [Read more:](#)

Stand strong against gambling interests

Crimes in Illinois have been tied to video gambling, and municipalities that try to exert local control of video gambling open themselves to lawsuits. [Read more:](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Attend Candidate Forums and ask candidates' their position on gambling.

Check to see which Legislative Candidates have completed [ILCAAAP's Candidate Survey](#) on gambling issues.

If Legislative Candidates in your district have not complete this [Candidate Survey](#), ask them do so or to tell you how they will vote on gambling expansion bills.

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