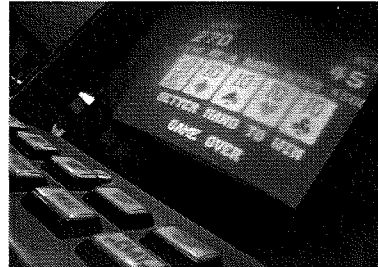




January 23, 2015 Gambling Alert



Lisa Madigan Blocks Northstar Lottery Deal

Attorney General Lisa Madigan blocked a deal struck in the final weeks of the Quinn administration to revamp management of the Illinois Lottery, saying the arrangement is illegal and would needlessly cost taxpayers. *Crain's Chicago Business* obtained a copy of the letter Attorney General Madigan wrote, saying she "was not consulted" about the settlement and, in fact, learned about it after the fact.

The letter concludes, "For these reasons, the proposed 'termination agreement' is hereby disapproved. This office plans to continue its vigorous defense" of the state in litigation with Northstar. [Read more.](#)

Editorial: Facts don't support gambling expansion

Now, with Gov. Bruce Rauner installed in Springfield, proponents of expanding gambling say they'll try again. But it's clearly time to fold on new casinos. Illinois casino gambling is in decline, with drops of \$86.7 million in revenue and 1.4 million in admissions in 2014 compared to 2013, continuing a trend that's been developing for years, as *Daily Herald* Staff Writer Erin Hegarty wrote: [Read more.](#)

Letter: Expanding gambling is a failed and flawed solution that does not work

Although former Governor Quinn vetoed two massive gambling bills, he left behind a legacy of gambling expansion. The legalization of video gambling expanded the number of slot machines from 10,000 at 10 casinos by an additional 19,000 machines operating in nearly 4,700 neighborhood casinos statewide. Internet gambling on the Lottery and horse racing (Advanced Deposit Wagering), and privatization of the Lottery also were approved under the former governor. Illinois residents are now gambling and losing millions of dollars every month.

Gambling is an unstable source of revenue that has not and cannot solve Illinois' budget crises. [Read more.](#)

Rockford Lawmaker Wants More Casinos

Senator Syverson has said legislation may not come to the statehouse floor until April at the earliest. [Read more.](#)

Gold Rush - Video Gambling Parlors Cash In

Illinois Times reported about video gambling parlors offering freebies to gamblers--\$5 free slot play, free food and soft drinks.

Chris Stone, founder of Lucy's Place, wants the Illinois Gaming Board to approve a customer loyalty program patterned after the casinos that gives meals, concert tickets, gift certificates, and other freebies based on how much a person gambles on the machines.

Letter: Video Gambling is No White Knight

Terminal operators have made \$340 million since video gambling was legalized, and bar owners have walked away with another \$340 million. This industry has the money, but not the will to protect Illinois' vulnerable citizens. [Read more.](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

- Share this Alert with your [State Representative](#) and [State Senator](#) and ask them to oppose all expansion of gambling.
- Write a letter to the Editor.
- Share this Alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
- Forward to 10 other.

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