

February 13, 2015

**Gambling Action Alert
SB 746 Expands Video gambling**



SB 746 will be heard in the Senate Executive Committee Feb. 18th

SB 746 DOUBLES the number of video gambling machines at truck stops within 3 miles of a freeway interchange that sell 50,000 gallons of diesel/biodiesel fuel a month. **SB 746 opens the door for expansion of video gambling machines in all other establishments.**

Truck stops, which are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, have some of the highest video gambling losses in the State.

Illinois has the most interstate highways of any state. Long-haul truck drivers need to sleep when they stop to get gas and eat. Studies have shown that gambling addicts drive like drunk drivers. DOUBLING video gambling at truck stops could impact public safety.

SB 746 requires machines to be monitored through a closed circuit television system in view of ONE employee over the age of 21. These businesses are understaffed, with one or two employees to ring up sales, stock shelves, make coffee, etc. Underage gambling and children near machines could increase.

SB 746 requires video gambling establishments to have at least 15% total revenue from the sale of alcohol in 3 years! This is too little, too late to address the issue of video gambling parlors.

Illinois' gambling habit out of control

Gambling seems to breed more gambling, writes a columnist for the *Illinois Valley News Tribune*. A lot of times, I see just one car outside one of these mini gambling parlors in my neighborhood. Even if they're busier than I perceive and they are generating revenue for the city government, what is the cost in terms of gambling addiction, poor spending habits and dollars diverted from the local economy and local business? [Read more](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. If your Senator is on the Senate Executive Committee, please call and ask them to Vote NO on SB 746.
2. Share this Alert with your State Senator and ask him/her to OPPOSE SB 746.
3. Share this Alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
4. Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action.

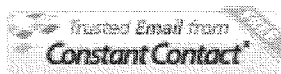
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