



February 27, 2015

Gambling Action Alert



Rep. Rita introduces gambling expansion bills

Rep. Robert Rita introduced two gambling-expansion bills this week. **HB 2939 legalizes a State-owned casino in Chicago.**

HB 3564 would allow five new casinos across the state - including one in Chicago - and would allow slot machines at all of the state's horse-racing tracks, except for Fairmount Park. Fairmount Park would be added to the bill if the horse track can resolve a dispute that involves its competitor, the Casino Queen. [Read more](#)

HB 2939 includes:

- A massive casino for Chicago with 4,000 to 10,000 gambling positions.
- The City of Chicago would select the casino site and acquire the land, and the Capital Development Board would oversee construction.
- Money distributed to the City of Chicago would be used for capital expenditures, public pensions, educational purposes, or a combination.
- Additional casino revenue would be used for state construction and education

HB 3564 is the massive gambling expansion bill that includes:

- Casinos in Chicago and the counties of Vermillion, Lake, Winnebago, and the South Suburbs of Chicago (Bloom Bremen, Calumet, Rich, Thornton, or Worth Township)
- Racetracks in Cook County could have 600 gambling positions. Tracks outside of Cook County could get 450 gambling positions for slot/video gambling machines and virtual table games.
- Quad-City Downs, which has had no live horse racing in over 20 years, could get 175 machines, with an increase to 450 positions if live racing resumed. A feasibility study is included for slot machines at the State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

HB 335 passed out of the House Executive Committee this week. HB 335 makes the Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) pilot program permanent.

- HB 335 legalizes Internet betting on horse racing 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from home computers, Smart phones, I-Pads and tablets.
- HB 335 impacts live horse racing in Illinois. Illinois Racing Board reports show 11% of the ADW handle is on Illinois Horses and 89% is on Out of State Races. This will not save horse racing, but will make track owners and ADW companies richer.

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. **Contact your State Representative** and ask him/her to vote NO on gambling expansion bills HB 335, HB 2939, and HB 3564.
2. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
3. **Forward** to 10 others.

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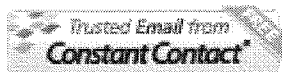
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