



**August 13, 2015**

## **Gambling Action Alert**



### **DeKalb County Board to vote Aug. 19 on resolution to support putting land in trust for Tribal Bingo Hall**

It is important for everyone living in DeKalb County to attend a meeting on Wednesday, August 19, at 7:30 p.m. at 200 N. Main Street in DeKalb when the Board will vote on a resolution to support putting land in trust for a Tribal Bingo Hall (casino). The Prairie Band Potawatomi wants to build a **24-hour** bingo hall on land they purchased in Shabbona.

The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) has **authorized tribes without compacts with state governments to have an unlimited number of bingo slot machines. Since these devices are "virtually indistinguishable from video slots" with current technology, bingo halls increasingly look like casinos.** (I. Nelson Rose, "Gambling and the Law: Is it Bingo or a Slot Machine?" *Gaming Law Review*, vol. 7, no. 2, 2003, p. 99.

If this off-reservation casino is approved, it could open up the state to other tribal casino proposals. There are more than enough opportunities for people to lose their money at the 10 casinos and 4,951 video gambling establishments in the state.

A former U. S. congressman from Connecticut wrote an op-ed earlier this year saying "Connecticut's casinos serve a cautionary tale". Despite an overall drop in crime in the state, the number of violent crimes, including murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, increased in nearby towns after the tribal casinos arrived, and the value of property stolen

skyrocketed nearly 40 percent. The casinos have done little to create spin-off businesses, but have cannibalized existing businesses. [Read the op-ed.](#)

**Now is the time to speak out about the impact of gambling  
NO MORE GAMBLING!**

**FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION**

1. If you live in DeKalb County, attend the Public Meeting on Wednesday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. and/or contact the County Board members by phone 815-895-1630 or e-mail. <http://dekalbcounty.org/CountyBoard/members.html>
2. If you know anyone living in DeKalb County, invite them to attend the meeting.
3. Forward to 10 others.

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