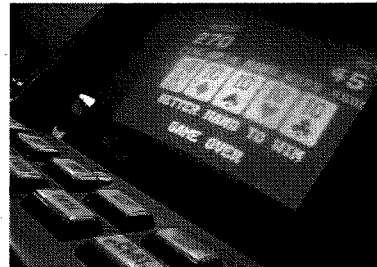




December 4, 2015

Gambling Alert Fantasy Sports and Video Gambling



Rauner pushes Gaming Board to back off fantasy sports site issue

The Illinois Gaming Board this fall had publicly expressed its intention to seek a legal opinion from Lisa Madigan, the state's chief legal officer, on whether the sites can legally operate here. AGs in Massachusetts and New York have recently argued that major consumer protections are needed.

But at a meeting two weeks ago, the gaming board abruptly backed away from its request, with its spokesman saying the fantasy sports operations are "currently under review." The reason is Rauner. [Read more](#)

Editorial: They call it fantasy sports. It's real gambling

State Rep. Michael Zalewski, D-Riverside, has proposed legislation (HB 4323) that essentially would legalize fantasy sports and other contests on the Internet. It would exempt fantasy sports from the Illinois criminal code's prohibition of gambling over the Internet in games of skill or of chance. [Read more](#)

False promises in fantasy sports gambling

In a lawsuit seeking to close down the sites' operations in the state, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman says that placing money on fantasy sports is really gambling, as each wager relies on a "future contingent event not under [the bettor's] control or influence." Yet the two companies argue that the wagers depend mainly on skill, such as knowing each player's talents and record, rather than on chance. As proof, however, they point out how few people actually make money. (More than 85 percent of players using the site fail to win.) In making such a case, they have exposed their own advertising deceit and support the state's charge that the ads create a false perception that betting on fantasy sports "is eminently winnable." [Read more](#)

Gambling on Slots/Video gambling machines - no amount of it is safe

Is occasional gambling safe? Our study found that gambling is like smoking: the more you gamble, the greater your risk of developing problems. There is no safe level of gambling, only risks that increase as you lose more money - even at relatively low levels of losses.

... **Electronic gaming machines** - known as pokies in Australia, video lottery terminals in Canada and slot machines in the US - **were the most strongly associated with problem gambling in every country in our study.** [Read more](#)

Anti-gambling residents sue Mundelein over botched truck stop zoning

Nearby resident Nicole Sullivan complained the village is helping Graham stretch the definition of 'truck stop' in order to get a state gambling license.

"There must be a reason why lawmakers decided not to allow video gambling in gas stations and convenient stores," Sullivan said. "If this isn't going to be a real truck stop, why are you helping them get a truck stop gambling license? I'm concerned about your willingness to help this company skirt the law." [Read more](#)

Police investigating robbery of video gambling employee

Elmwood Park police say a man was robbed of \$10,000 when he was approached by a man with a gun and told to hand over the backpack that he was carrying. The victim was a "collector" who worked for a video gambling company. The money was to be put in the video gambling automatic teller machine which dispenses cash to video gambling winners. [Read more](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

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2. **Share this Alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.**
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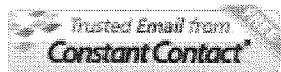
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