



**April 28, 2016**

## **Gambling Update & Alert**



The **Fantasy Sports gambling bill (HB 4323)** was amended last week and passed out of the Judiciary Criminal Law Committee. The amendment raised the age to gamble on sports to 21--24 hours a day, 7 days a week from a smart phone, computer, or other electronic devices from their home, office, or dorm room.

While the bill tried to make a distinction between new gamblers and highly experienced fantasy sports players, an experienced gambler could use multiple names and credit cards and gamble with more than one company. The bill limited sports gamblers to deposit \$3,000 per quarter, but the operator could temporarily or permanently increase the limit at the request of the gambler.

While the bill said Fantasy sports gambling operators "shall not advertise on school, college, or university campuses", students can watch ads on their smart phones, computers, and televisions. Underage gamblers could use a parent's credit card without permission, set up an account, and start gambling. A recent study found that 10% of college students are gambling on the Internet. If the Legislature legalizes Internet sports gambling, this rate will increase.

**The House adjourned before HB 4323 could be amended again and called for a vote. Thank you to all who made calls!**

The *Chicago Sun-Times* wrote an editorial Sunday saying DFS is too big to shut down.

In response Rep. Ron Sandack, a member of the committee that heard HB 4323, wrote an op-ed saying Fantasy sports operators are not to be trusted.

### **Gambling bills that passed in the House or Senate:**

**HB 335** makes **Advanced Deposit Watering** pilot program permanent (Internet gambling on horse racing). The bill was introduced in January, 2015, amended and passed in one day last week.

**HB 4325 expands video gambling** to Craft Spirits distilleries. The Video Gambling Act allowed retail liquor establishments, not manufacturers of alcohol, to have the gambling machines.

**SB 513** makes the **Internet Lottery** pilot program permanent. The pilot program was limited to the sale of 3 Lottery tickets, but a new private manager could put scratch off tickets on the Internet and increase the daily limit of \$150 without Legislative approval.

### **FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION**

1. **Contact your State Senator** and ask him/her to **Vote NO on HB 335** to make Internet gambling on horse racing permanent and **HB 4325** to expand video gambling for Craft Spirits Distillers. Ask your Senator to **OPPOSE Fantasy Sports gambling**.
2. **Contact your State Representative** and ask him/her to **OPPOSE HB 4323** to legalize Fantasy sports gambling and to **Vote NO on SB 513**, to make Internet Lottery sales permanent.
3. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to PRAY and CALL.
4. **Forward** to 10 others.

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