



**June 15, 2017**

## **Gambling Action Alert Special Session June 21-30**



The governor has called a special session to work on the budget impasse. However, **when Legislators are in session, they can vote on other bills, too.**

The following **gambling expansion bills were passed in the Senate and could be called for a vote in the House at any time.**

**SB 7** is a massive expansion of gambling that doubles the amount of casinos in Illinois - City of Chicago, Rockford, Danville, Lake County, South Suburbs, Williamson County, and 4 casinos at racetracks. A House Amendment has been filed for another casino in downtown Springfield.

**HB 479** legalizes Internet Fantasy Sports gambling and Internet Gambling at casinos and racetrack. This bill was amended on the Senate floor and passed on the last night of session. If this bill is passed in the House, it will go to the governor!

**SB 209** is an expansion of video gambling. The maximum bet on video gambling would DOUBLE from \$2 to \$4. At the current rate, a gambling can lose up to \$300 an hour. SB 209 increases the jackpot from \$500 to \$1,199 and allows progressive jackpots up to \$10,000. Establishments would be allowed to give incentives (T-Shirts, trips) to keep people gambling.

**SB 1427** extends Internet Lottery sales for one more year. This "pilot program" has been running for 5 years, with no effort to show the impact on families or cost to the State.

### **Powerball, Mega Millions could drop Illinois due to state's budget crisis**

The association that runs the Powerball lottery and Mega Millions games will drop Illinois at the end of June without a budget agreement. Concern over the state of Illinois' fiscal condition prompted that decision by the Multi-State Lottery Association, according to internal Illinois Lottery communications.

... Shaneen Murray, a Woodlawn resident, said **taking away the temptation of some of the high-profile lottery games is "not necessarily a terrible thing. Maybe people can save money, or put their money toward something better,"** she said. [Read more](#)

## FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. [Contact your State Representative](#) and ask him/her to **OPPOSE** and **Vote NO** on **SB 7, HB 479, SB 209, and SB 1427. (Capitol Switchboard: 217-782-2000)**
2. [Contact Gov. Rauner](#) and ask him to **OPPOSE** massive gambling expansion bills: **SB 7, HB 479, SB 209 and SB 1427.**
3. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to **CALL** and **PRAY.**
4. **Forward** to 10 others.

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