



June 26, 2017

**Gambling Alert
Internet Gambling bills to be
heard Tuesday, June 27**



The House Executive Committee and the Gaming Subcommittee hearing for Internet Gambling and Internet Fantasy Sports gambling were changed from Saturday too Tuesday, June 27th at 2:00 p.m.

HB 479, entitled ILLINOIS STATE SEAL, was amended on the Senate floor on the last night of the regular session. HB 479 legalizes Internet Fantasy Sports gambling and Internet Gambling.

Daily Fantasy Sports is illegal under three Federal laws: the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 (UIGEA), the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992, and the Wire Act of 1961 (passed by U. S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy to fight organized crime). Source: Written testimony of Prof. John W. Kindt, 4/6/2016

HB 479 allows companies that have operated Daily Fantasy Sports illegally in Illinois to continue to operate and be licensed.

HB 479 would allow anyone 21 and older to gamble 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from a smart phone, computer, or other electronic devices from their home, office, or dorm room.

Existing casinos, racetracks (that conducted 30 live races in 2016), and Advance Deposit Wagering companies could be licensed to conduct Internet Gambling if HB 479 is passed in the House and signed by the governor.

The Gaming Board has no expertise in Internet gambling, and a new Division of Internet Gaming would have to be established. This would increase costs to the State and require hiring more employees. *The division "is authorized to enter into agreements with other gaming entities within the United States, including any State or U. S. territory or possession".*

HB 479 allows bets to be accepted from persons who are in the United States but not physically present in this State. The three states that currently conduct Internet gambling are small and need more people to gamble to become profitable. More Illinois residents would be enticed to gamble online if HB 479 becomes law.

SB 1531 will be amended in committee to **legalize Internet Fantasy Sports gambling.**

SB 209 expands video gambling by doubling the maximum bet, increasing the jackpot, and legalizing progressive jackpots up to \$10,000.

[Our view: Gambling funds no permanent fix](#)

Our View: Rockford casino? We'll believe it when we bet in it

Casinos support Internet Gambling bill, video gambling interests support SB 209. [Read more](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. Call your **State Representative** and ask him/her to oppose and vote No on HB 479, SB 1531, and SB 209 to expand gambling.
2. **Share this Alert** with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
3. **Forward** to 10 others.

Note: The special session is scheduled to end on June 30th.

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