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Video Gambling Alert - July 19, 2017



During the summer when residents are gone on vacation, away for holidays, or spending time with family, local officials continue to meet and pass gambling ordinances.

West Chicago City Council was scheduled to vote to overturn the ban on video gambling on July 17th. Approximately 25 people attended the city council meeting, and most of them spoke out in opposition to video gambling. One restaurant owner, who first wanted video gambling, changed his mind during the meeting and said he would not apply for a license. The City Council delayed the vote and will bring up the issue again in August.

Action

If you know anyone who lives in West Chicago, please ask them to contact the Mayor and Alderman to support the ban on video gambling.

Springfield Park Board members should reject video gambling at Sliders stadium

A baseball game is a great summer past time and fun for the whole family. That's why the Springfield Park Board should reject video gambling at the Sliders stadium.

Springfield has the most video gambling machines in the State. Area residents have lost over \$103 million in the 592 video gambling machines operating in Springfield establishments. Read more

Action

The Springfield Park Board will meet on July 20th at 5:30 at Bunn Park. [Contact](#) the Park Board to voice your concerns.

Grocery store's video gambling opens new wagering frontier in suburbs

Last month, the Piggly Wiggly [in **Antioch**] became one of the first full-service grocery stores in the state to offer video gambling, potentially opening a new wagering frontier for northeastern Illinois.

As more grocery stores seek liquor licenses, often to allow sales of beer and wine along with prepared food in dining areas, they also become eligible under state law for video gambling licenses.

... Gambling in grocery stores "is going way beyond what the legislature intended and takes it mainstream. You can choose to go to a bar or video gambling parlor, but this is a place where families and children shop. These machines are triggers for gambling addicts, so where are you going to go to get away from it?" said Bedell.

... **Piggly Wiggly's terminal operator is former state Sen. Michael Bond**, who now owns Tap Room Gaming LLC and operates machines in more than 200 establishments in the region. [Read more](#)

Action

Look at the Illinois Gaming Board [monthly video gambling report](#). Click on Municipality and scroll down to find the name of your town/city. Download the report to see how much money local residents have LOST (NTI) in one month, how many machines are in operation, and how much money was lost in each establishment.

Attend a city council meeting and/or talk with local officials to tell them of your concerns.

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