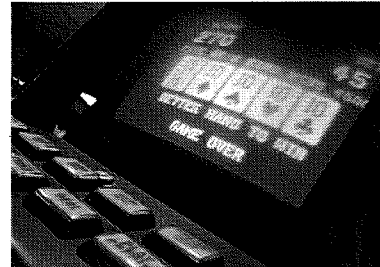




October 16, 2014

Video Gambling Alert



Illinois is becoming more and more like Las Vegas

Remember how Governor Quinn once said he didn't want Illinois to become the Las Vegas of the Midwest? Las Vegas has gambling machines in grocery stores, Laundromats, restaurants, bars, convenience stores, liquor stores, billiard parlors, truck stops, and golf courses. The Illinois Video Gaming Board has approved licenses for many of these same types of establishments. Now the Peoria City Council is considering allowing grocery stores with restaurants to also serve alcohol. Hy-Vee and Schnucks grocery stores meet that qualification, and could then apply for video gambling machines. [Read more](#)

Put the brakes on gambling expansion

Illinois has over 18,000 video slot machines in more than 4,700 locations--twice as many locations licensed for gambling than Nevada, according to Tom Swoik. [Read more](#). [Read more](#)

Communities try to cut back on video gambling

Freeport City Council members are exploring methods governing electronic gambling. The only way a local government could cap the number of establishments with video gaming would be by limiting liquor licenses. "Freeport needs to limit how many (machines) come, because they're going to flood the market and it will hurt the businesses that have been here the longest." [Read more](#)

Jacksonville aldermen want to triple the liquor license fees for video gambling parlors, after previously limiting the number of parlors to two. [Read more](#)

Video gambling money to help abused children!

Williamson County is giving part of their "cut" from video gambling to two groups that help abused children. Area residents have LOST over \$1.8 Million in the gambling machines in the county. How many children have gone hungry or have been neglected or abused by a parent who is losing money in these gambling machines? [Read more](#)

Wagering in Illinois - 2014

A new report from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability gives an overview of gambling in Illinois. The video gambling section shows the top 25 municipalities for number of machines and amount of LOSSES (Net terminal income). Forty-five percent of Illinois residents live in areas that ban video gambling, including the City of Chicago. [Read more](#)

To see how much money is being lost in your town or county, check the monthly video gambling

reports by clicking on this link: <http://www.igb.illinois.gov>. You will need to click on the video gaming tab and then click on monthly reports.

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

- With an election coming up, this is a good time to talk to your legislators and candidates.
- Find out where they stand on this issue and let them know you are opposed to the expansion of gambling.
- Share this Alert with your Mayor and Aldermen
- Share this Alert with your faith community and PRAY.
- Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action.

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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems | 1132 West Jefferson | Springfield | IL | 62702