



Gambling Alert - September 17, 2018



Democratic governor candidate **J. B. Pritzker** said **legalizing sports gambling in Illinois is "an important thing to consider"** as a way to find more revenue for the state. Pritzker also has a financial stake in gambling, according to his statement of economic interest, the *Chicago Tribune* reported. [Read more](#)

Foreign companies partner with online sports gambling sector in U. S.
[Read more](#)

FanDuel Group

The company was created when European bookmaker Paddy Power Betfair merged its U.S. operations with that of fantasy sports betting company FanDuel on July 11.

Three days later, on July 14, the FanDuel Group opened its first sportsbook at the Meadowlands horse racing track in New Jersey, taking bets on baseball, soccer, football, basketball, golf, boxing, motorsports and other sports.

Paddy Power Betfair, founded in Dublin in 1988, provides the experience and is one of the largest sportsbooks in Europe, where betting on sports has been legal for years. Its U.S. operations prior to the merger included ownership of horse racing wagering and television company TVG and an online casino in New Jersey. [Read more](#)

Impact of Legal Sports Betting

There are some **500,000 problem gamblers in the UK** and a further **two million people are in danger**. Some experts estimate that **two suicides every working day**

can be attributed, at least in part, to problem gambling. Many are high potential young people under 25.

We don't know how many children and teenagers, being groomed to gamble online, will add to these tragic statistics in the next ten years or so. [Read more](#)

For Immediate Action

1. A House Legislative hearing will be held in Springfield on October 17 to hear testimony on Internet gambling, Internet Sports gambling, and Fantasy Sports betting. Contact your [State Representative](#) and ask him to OPPOSE this massive expansion of gambling into homes and on smart phones and tablets 24/7.
2. Attend Candidate Forums and ask candidates their position on Internet Sports gambling.
3. Share this Alert with your faith community.
4. Forward to 10 others.

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