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Gambling Alert - Nov. 16, 2018



In the past, the Illinois General Assembly heard several bills to legalize historical racing machines, but they were never called for a vote. ILCAAAP testified in opposition at these hearings and others to oppose slot/video machines at race tracks.

Now, the Illinois Racing Board wants to bypass the Legislative process and just pass rules to implement historic horse racing machines. They voted to pass rules to allow the gambling machines, and are seeking approval from a Legislative committee (JCAR).

This is a massive expansion of gambling to allow an unlimited number of electronic gambling devices (slots) at Illinois racetracks.

Kentucky Downs was operating 775 historical horse racing machines. They asked for and received permission from the Horse Racing Commission to **increase the number to 1,200!**

In July, 2018 the **Kentucky Horse Racing Commission authorized Churchill Downs, Inc. to operate 2,000 historical racing machines.** The Kentucky Horse Racing Commission authorized 7 different styles of gaming terminals that could offer up to 20 game themes. This doesn't sound like horse racing or pari-mutuel betting.

For Immediate Action

The Illinois Racing Board does not have the statutory authority to approve the installation of historical racing machines. This is a massive expansion of gambling. **Contact JCAR and ask the Legislators to oppose the Illinois Racing Board rule, Part 327 for Historical Horse Racing.** *E-Mail:* jcar@ilga.gov, *Mail:* 700 Stratton Building, Springfield, IL 62706, *Fax:* 217-524-0567.

If your Legislator is a member of [JCAR](#), call or e-mail to ask him/her to vote NO on the Historical Horse Racing rule (Part 327).

Share this Alert with your faith community.

Forward to 10 others.

"Baby Casinos" - Video gambling increases

Video gambling revenue has grown by more than 75 percent in just the last three years, according to a new [Wagering in Illinois](#) report.

... The maximum bets on machines he plays are \$2, but Peterson said he can play longer with bets as low as 9 cents. He knows some serious gamblers, though, who spend hundreds of dollars at a time. He's seen some players come when the parlors open and leave when they close, and saw one angry customer overturn a machine after complaining that he'd lost \$3,000.

...Anti-gambling activist Anita Bedell, director of Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems, said video gambling's wide availability only increases addictive and problem gambling. [Read more](#)

Column: Voters can turn their backs on video gambling [like Forest Park]

Not everyone likes that gambling is so prevalent at so many bars, gas stations, truck stops and gaming parlors in the Illinois Valley. Some say it feeds addiction. Some say it is destroying the community.

If you don't want more slot machines moving into the community, you can ask your local city council or village board to put the referendum on the ballot and let the voters decide. We've seen it happen once. It can happen again. [Read more](#)

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