



Gambling Alert - Jan. 29, 2019



Gov. Pritzker and others consider gambling expansion to balance budget

"I want to make sure we're looking at the entire arena of **casino gambling**, of **video gaming**, of **sports betting**, which we can bring to the state of Illinois. To determine how we can expand the dollars that we have for the state of Illinois, not to mention the dollars we have going into our industry here, so we can create jobs," Pritzker said. "I realize that there has been cannibalization in certain areas of the state, and that's resulted in lower-than-expected revenue, but the fact is, if we're strategic and if we study it properly and make sure we're putting our gaming resources in the right place, I believe we can expand gaming revenue." [Read more](#)

WATCH this video on how IL borrowed and spent funds for an infrastructure program before Video Gambling machines were even operating.

Do you know someone who struggles with video gambling?

ProPublica wants people to share stories about how video gambling has affected you or someone you know. "By contributing your story, you'll help us understand and continue investigating an overlooked cost of the state's massive gambling expansion: the health of our families, friends and community members, and the failure of lawmakers to deliver on their promises." [Read more](#)

The United States Department of Justice recently issued an opinion that the Wire Act applies to interstate online poker and casino games, not just sports bets. A 2011 DOJ opinion said the Wire Act only applied to sports gambling and allowed Illinois to be the first state in the nation to legalize Internet Lottery.

There will be court challenges to the new opinion and possibly delays in passing or implementing Internet and sports gambling. Read the op-ed written by Prof. John Kindt on this issue.

For Immediate Action

The new Legislative session begins today, and there are many new lawmakers who need to hear from YOU, their constituents.

1. **Contact** your State Representative and Senator and let them know you Oppose the massive expansion of casinos, video gambling, racetrack casinos, Internet gambling, sports gambling, and fantasy sports/video game contests(sports). Please send them the ProPublica article.
2. **Share this Alert with your faith community** and ask them to PRAY.
3. **Forward** to 10 others.

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