



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

[Visit Our Website](#)

Gambling Alert - April 23, 2021



House Exec. Committee to hold subject matter hearings on gambling proposals

Two committee hearings are scheduled for Wednesday, April 28 at 9:30 a.m. (Virtual Room 3) and Friday, April 30 at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual Room 1). You can watch the hearings at <https://ilga.gov/houseaudvid.asp>

Chicago Mayor seeks bids for casino and urges speed from regulators

Developers have until Aug. 23 to submit proposals, and will make public presentations in late September. Lightfoot's office will pick "one or more qualified applicants" and, through the end of the year, hold community meetings and negotiate "host community agreements" with those potential developers.

Early next year, the mayor's office will select a final applicant to put up for approval from several city agencies and ultimately the City Council. After that, the chosen developer would apply for Gaming Board approval.

Lightfoot said she expects the finished casino to open by 2025, though an operator can set up shop at a temporary site once the developer gets state approval. [Read more](#)

[Related](#)

Temporary casino plans for Rockford hit roadblock

The Illinois Gaming Board has denied Giovanni's request for a casino suppliers license. The decision came after the restaurant requested to withdraw its application at the last minute. 815 Entertainment, the investment group trying to bring a casino to Rockford, is now in the process to buy Giovanni's. [Read more](#)

Walker's Bluff casino could be in jeopardy without labor agreement

A signed project labor agreement (PLA), also known as "community workforce agreement," is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor organizations that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project.

Without a signed PLA, the Walker's Bluff Casino project could be in jeopardy. Two pieces of legislation are working their way through the General Assembly - one that will require a PLA for any casino built in Illinois. The second bill would open up the gaming license that has been earmarked for Walker's Bluff to other potential casino operators in southern Illinois. [Read more](#)

Video gambling operator pays \$75,000 in settlement

Rick Heidner's Gold Rush Gaming agreed in the unanimously approved settlement to pay \$45,000 to reimburse the board for "administrative and investigative costs," along with a \$30,000 fine for "unprofessional conduct." The agreement says Gold Rush will continue as a gaming terminal operator in good standing.

Also resolved was a [December 2019 Gaming Board demand](#) that Heidner part ways with a key employee the agency. Ronald Bolger, Gold Rush's director of operations, denied the associations, and the Gaming Board dropped the complaint as part of another settlement. [Read more](#)

[Related](#)

Casey Urlacher wins as write-in candidate for Mettawa Mayor

Urlacher, the brother of Chicago Bears' Hall of Fame linebacker Brian Urlacher, did not initially file for reelection in December because he was under indictment for sports-related gambling charges. He became a write-in candidate after he was pardoned on January 20. [Read more](#)

NFL partners with Caesars, FanDuel, DraftKings on sports betting

The gambling companies will get the use of NFL trademarks and official league data, and will integrate their own betting content into media properties including NFL.com and the league's official app.

The Associated Press began a partnership with FanDuel in which the sportsbook will be the AP's source of sports lines and betting odds. [Read more](#)

For Immediate Action

SB 1360, pertaining to the project labor agreement for Walker's Bluff casino passed in the Senate. HB 1282 was heard in the House Executive Committee, which pertains to the Walker's Bluff casino. The Illinois Gaming Board has bills concerning licensing video gambling sales agents and a ban on Sweepstakes machines. These bills and other issues could be included in the Subject Matter: Gaming Proposal hearings to be held next week.

The Legislature is scheduled to adjourn on May 31st. The next few weeks will be hectic, and gambling bills could move very quickly. Please check your email for Action Alerts and be prepared to file witness slips and make calls to your State Representative and Senator.

[Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action \(tax deductible\)](#)

[Donate Now](#)

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems

1132 West Jefferson,
Springfield, IL 62702
217-546-6871

[Contact Us](#)

