



Gambling Alert - December 1, 2020



IL casinos want Legislators to legalize Online gambling

Tom Swoik, the executive director of the Illinois Casino Gaming Association, told Casino.org that the casinos will support two measures that would benefit the industry in the state. One is legalizing iGaming. The other is doing away with the in-person registration requirement for mobile sports betting accounts.

. . . While casinos will back mobile gaming, it's likely the video gaming industry would oppose such efforts unless they receive concessions or are allowed to get involved as well. [Read more](#)

Letter to Editor: Offensive gambling ads

Is anyone else as upset as I am about the new commercials for online gambling? I think how those who have a compulsive gambling habit must be affected by these commercials.

A "recovered" gambler would feel he/she had succeeded in controlling their habit. They think they just need to stay home and away from the temptation to go to a gambling site.

Then, while watching their favorite shows in the safety of their living room, there is a commercial on television. The commercial tells how easy it is to gamble online. It even gives financial incentives to make up for "losing." [Read more](#)

Butcher who made \$3.7M from illegal sports gambling gets 1 year in prison

"The size of his operation and the amount of cash he obtained was greater than that for which he was charged," a federal prosecutor recently wrote of Domenic Poeta.

[Read more](#)

Fox Sports Midwest intends to become a bookie joint

FSM parent company Sinclair Broadcasting has struck a deal with casino operator Bally's Corporation in which Fox Sports Midwest and most of the 20 other regional sports networks it owns nationwide will be renamed, expected to be called "Bally

Sports" or something similar.

The plan is to have interactive betting on the TV screen or mobile devices on which the games are being seen, with Bally's - through Sinclair - serving as the bookie.

"The overall vision is . . . to 'gamify' sports" and "to make watching sports like playing a video game," Sinclair president and CEO Chris Ripley said. "We think this will dramatically increase the attractiveness of (watching), especially for a younger generation." He said that 60% of those ages 18-34 are interested in sports betting. "A lot of that is driven by their connection to video games," he said. [Read more](#)

Illinois agency launches study of gambling addiction

The Illinois Department of Human Services has launched a one-year roughly \$500,000 prevalence study on gambling addiction to help determine future efforts to prevent problem gambling and increase access to treatment and services. [Read](#)

NOTE: Why wasn't the study conducted BEFORE the governor signed the massive gambling expansion bill in 2019?

Lights out at suburban gambling parlor linked to failed bank

The landlord is suing to evict DaVinci's Gaming Bar, claiming 80-year-old Rosemary Kowalski owes nearly \$24,000 in rent on the storefront down the street from Chicago Ridge's village hall.

A court-appointed lawyer has taken control, hoping to find out if the bar had been bankrolled by the woman's son, Robert M. Kowalski, an attorney currently in custody at the Metropolitan Correctional Center.

At the receiver's request, the Illinois Gaming Board has disconnected DaVinci's six video gambling machines, which received more than \$84,000 in wagers since they began operating in August. [Read](#)

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