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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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Gambling Alert -February 2, 2023



Gambling addiction grows in NY amid rise of online betting

ALBANY — More and more young adults have been gripped by compulsive gambling habits but the state has failed to provide the funding needed for a full-throttled public awareness campaign, an expert on addiction told lawmakers Tuesday.

James Maney, director of the state Council on Problem Gambling, said the recent introduction of mobile sports gambling and the expansion of other gaming outlets has contributed to an increase in the number of 18 to 24-year-olds who have evolved into "pathological gamblers."

Maney noted the sums spent by the state to promote gambling dwarf what it spends on advertising for counseling for gambling addiction.

"I've heard a lot today about the economic benefits (from legalized gaming). -- sure, but at what cost?" Maney said at a legislative hearing. "We get the calls at one o'clock in the morning. We get the calls from parents now of college-aged kids losing their money, asking what to do."

Maney said calls to his agency's referral network telephone line have increased by 25% since the introduction of sports betting in

the state. [READ](#)

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