



Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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## Gambling Action Alert - January 12,2022



### Gambling Alert

#### **U of I Athletic Director concerned about betting on college sports**

Whitman was among the most vocal critics of the push to lift the betting ban on state college teams as it moved from the Illinois House to the Senate to the governor's desk. Between team buses and Twitter feeds, he has seen enough evidence to recognize the toll the measure could take on players' mental health, which he says "has never been more fragile." [Read](#)

#### **Sports Gambling in Illinois**

Last month, Pritzker signed HB 3136 that allows bettors to place wagers on Illinois college teams. On March 5, state law will allow remote registration for sports gambling.

In November, **bettors wagered \$779.8 million** at the state's retail and online sportsbooks, with **gross revenue of \$78.2 million** in November, yielding **\$12.7 million in state and local taxes**. [Read](#)  
*NOTE: The state tax on sports gambling is only 15%!*

#### **Preservation group supports site for Chicago casino**

[Read](#)

#### **Co-owner of Walker's Bluff, David Bunch, dies**

[Read](#)

## **9 Brain Games Casinos Play on You**

The casinos are masterful in the way they separate gamblers from their money. Whether it's by giving away free gifts, getting them buzzed, or fooling them into believing they're winning, the psychology behind casino gambling costs players millions of dollars annually. [\*\*Read\*\*](#)

### **Amid pandemic, a rise in gambling addiction emerges**

A recent survey from the National Council on Problem Gambling, a Washington-based nonprofit, showed that the risk has doubled since 2018.

Through November of 2021, the helpline received 238,600 calls, an average of nearly 21,700 per month. In 2018 and 2019, the average monthly calls hovered near 16,600.

Similar helplines in about a dozen states have had a rise in calls from gamblers in their 20s, 30s and 40s since the spring of 2020, said Janet Miller, executive director of the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling, which oversees helplines in states throughout the country.

[\*\*Read\*\*](#)

### ***For Immediate Action***

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