



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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## Gambling Alert - July 22, 2021



### **Man left child in car outside Rivers Casino**

A 7-year-old boy, who was left alone in a car outside the casino in Des Plaines, exited the vehicle after 20 minutes and approached security to say he'd been left inside a vehicle by someone inside the casino. A Schiller Park man was charged with endangering the life or health of a child, *the Daily Herald* reported. [Read](#)

### **Illinoisans can legally bet on the Olympics**

The Illinois Gaming Board approved Olympic betting in May, joining seven other states that allow it. [Read](#)

### **Video Gambling has taken control in IL**

Video gaming terminal (VGT) revenue was \$213 million in June, a massive increase compared to the last two years as the revenue is 57% higher than the VGT revenue made in June 2019. One of the reasons why the revenue had such a massive increase is that **the number of VGTs has increased by 25%** in these two years.

Four terminal operators J & J Ventures, Accel Entertainment, Gold Rush Amusements, and Prairie State Gaming together had Adjusted Gross Revenue of \$155.4 million! **Gamblers are LOSING between \$157 and \$199 in each machine every day!** [Read](#)

### **Letter urging Senate to vote on gambling bill**

If passed and signed into law, Senate Bill 521 would prevent municipalities from adding more taxes on top of the taxes already levied on video gaming. [Read](#)

**NOTE: Oak Lawn and Tinley Park** imposed a penny a push tax on video gambling machines to help pay for costs. Instead of paying the tax, video terminal operators filed a lawsuit and are lobbying for a change in law to keep other communities from doing the same.

### **Churchill Downs Asks for '22 Illinois Racing Dates**

. . . this news is likely to kindle hope (perhaps of the false variety) that Arlington could survive the wrecking ball—at least for another few race meets while CDI reaps the benefits of entitlements related to live racing licensure, like off-track betting and advance-deposit wagering.

O'Donnell also notes that CDI could also be using the move as a ploy to replenish its “depleted goodwill” with regulators and elected officials in Illinois. This could come in the form of using another season or two at Arlington as an olive branch while simultaneously pursuing bigger-picture casino endeavors at two lucrative locations where CDI wants to expand its gaming footprint in and near Chicago. [Read](#)

### **Sports Gambling - A cautionary tale for athletes**

One of the most notorious names in sports betting history, and a cautionary tale for athletes everywhere, is a conditionally free man. Former **Ohio State** star quarterback **Art Schlichter** was released from state prison in Ohio on June 14. [Read](#)

#### *For Immediate Action*

- Talk with your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) at events this summer. Let them know you are opposed to the expansion of gambling. Ask them to oppose Internet casino gambling, Keno, Internet Scratch-Offs, expanding sports gambling.

- Share this Alert with your faith community and PRAY.
- Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)

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