

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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# Gambling Action Alert - October 29, 2021



During the final hours of the Veto Session, both the Senate and the House passed HB 3136. The House Executive held a subject matter hearing on the bill at 7:30 p.m., with no testimony. During the House hearing, Rep. Butler announced that the Senate had just passed the bill!

The House voted on HB 3136 at 9:05, with Rep. Butler urging Representatives to look up how they voted on SB 521, which passed after 1:00 a.m. in the final hours of the spring session. They wanted 100 Yes votes on the bill!

### HB 3136 expands sports gambling and video gambling

Residents could bet on in-state college teams — but only at casinos — under a bill that passed Thursday, over the staunch opposition of some university athletics officials.

Under the bill, which passed the state Senate 44-12 and the House 100-11, wagers on local college teams would have to be placed in person at a casino, limited to bets on the outcomes of games, not individual performances. **The in-state ban would be reinstated in two years unless lawmakers pass another bill allowing it.** <u>Read</u>

#### This article is a good summary of the bill.

**IL Gambling Revenue Chase Closes in on Chicago Casinos More ways and places to gamble do not necessarily mean more revenue for the state.** Illinois has long looked to gambling as a revenue quick-fix, but after saturating the market it finds itself chasing diminishing returns. Rather than seeking more gambling revenue, state leaders would be better-served by controlling the spending side. **<u>Read</u>** 

#### **Illinois Internet Gaming Act coming in 2022**

**SB 2064** aims to get Illinois iGaming off the ground <u>as quickly as</u> <u>possible</u>. It directs the Illinois Gaming Board to do so by way of emergency rules and gives it a short deadline to do so. It also instructs the board to copy other states' rules as much as possible rather than reinventing the wheel. That's important in an industry where state-bystate regulation often leads to <u>inconsistency and chaos</u>. The bill expressly permits the IL Gaming Board to enter into interstate compacts. <u>Read</u>

#### Expect more of these heartbreaking stories

A bookkeeper from O'Fallon, Illinois, was sentenced Thursday to four years in federal prison for stealing just under \$1.5 million from her employer. The [74-year-old] doctor said he hired Dvorak so he could focus on his medical practice and "trusted her completely," prosecutors said in court documents. They said that he has been forced to continue working long and stressful hours to try and rebuild his assets for retirement and has suffered health problems because of it. He is "embarrassed and humiliated" by Dvorak's betrayal, they said.

Prosecutors said **Dvorak gambled most of the money away**. <u>Read more</u>

#### For Immediate Action

- See how your **<u>State Senator</u>** and **<u>Representative</u>** voted on HB 3136.
- 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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