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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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Gambling Action Alert - September 9, 2021



The Illinois Gaming Board will hold a special meeting on Wed., October 13 at 9:00 a.m. Companies that have submitted applications for casinos in Waukegan and the South Suburbs of Chicago will give presentations on their proposed casinos. The meeting is open to the public. Check www.igb.illinois.gov for additional information.

Gaming Board approves changes to Walker's Bluff casino
Dan Kehl of Elite Casino Resorts, a partner in the project, said plans are to have a ground breaking by the end of September and start construction in October. [Read](#)

Decatur approves "Push Tax" on V G machines
Only three other municipalities in Illinois, all in the Chicago suburbs, have imposed such a tax. Video gaming operators have sued to stop such laws.

However, a provision was included in omnibus gaming legislation that passed the Illinois House in June that would prohibit cities from imposing such a tax. **SB 521 was not taken up in the Senate, but it has some cities scrambling to enact a penny "push" ordinance before they're no longer able to do so.**

Members of the council suggested that the tax was a way to collect more than the "crumbs" the city currently receives for video gambling as compared to the state, establishments and video gaming terminal operators. [Read more](#)

Joliet considering a video gambling Push Tax [Read](#)

NFL allows Sportsbooks to offer In-Game Commercials

The National Football League is welcoming 7 different sportsbooks to its commercial airwaves. There is a limit of 6 ads per game for two reasons. One, because not all fans are interested in sports betting, and two, because there are still fresh memories of the ridiculousness of the **DraftKings–Fanduel** commercial wars in 2015, when the two companies spent more money than the entire beer industry on television from Aug. 15 to the first week of the NFL season. **Read**

For Immediate Action

1. Contact your **State Senator** and ask him/her to Oppose SB 521.
2. Share this Alert with your faith community.
3. Forward to 10 others.

Background on HB 521 which passed the House on June 1st. The Veto Session is Oct 19-20 and Oct. 26-28.

SB 521 expands gambling:

- Betting on ALL Illinois college teams.
- Smaller sports venues can conduct sports betting.
- Legalizes video gambling for fraternal and veterans in municipalities and counties that BAN video gambling, except Chicago and Cook County.

The Illinois Gaming Board supports SB 521 because it contains measures it supported: 1) licensing of video gambling sales agents and brokers, 2) 4-year renewal of video gambling licenses instead of yearly renewal.

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