

**February 10, 2023**

**Latest state updates highlighted in green**

## IDEA Priority States in Legislative Phase 2023

State	Current Status	Key Dates	IDEA Engagement / Opportunities
<b>GEORGIA</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Jan. 31, 11 Georgia State Senators filed SB 57 to legalize sports betting. The bill, which is primarily backed by the horseracing industry, would allow the Georgia Lottery Corporation to issue 18 sports betting licenses; nine to professional sports teams or their preferred online sports betting provider and nine that we be will untethered. The tax rate would be 20%. A copy of the bill and more background information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>. It was anticipated that Georgia State Rep. Ron Stephens would also be filing sports betting legislation this week, but we have not yet seen a bill filed.</p> <p><b>SB 57 is not the industry-supported version of a Georgia sports betting bill. We anticipated that the a sports betting bill supported by operators and team would be filed this week, but we have not yet seen a bill filed.</b></p>	Mar. 30 - adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Georgia legislature.
<b>ILLINOIS</b> <i>(iGaming + Sports Amendment)</i>	<p><b>Illinois Senate Executive Chairwoman Cristina Castro notified the iDEA team on Feb. 9 that she will be calling SB 323 – this year’s continued effort to pass the supplier renewal fee fix bill that she is sponsoring – for a hearing on Feb. 15. We still anticipate Rep. Bob Rita to file a House version of the bill, but we will focus our efforts on the Senate bill.</b></p> <p><b>On Feb. 8, Sen. Cristina Castro filed SB 1656, the industry-supported bill that would legalize iGaming in Illinois. The bill would allow operators to have three skins and would impose a tax rate of 15%. State Rep. Edgar Gonzalez has filed identical legislation in the Illinois House as HB 2239. As Illinois moves through this year’s budget process, there is a possibility that the Pritzker Administration may be looking for additional revenue</b></p>	<p><b>Feb. 15 – committee hearing on SB 323</b></p> <p>Feb. 17 – House bill introduction deadline</p> <p>Mar. 10 – House and Senate committee deadline</p> <p>May 19 - adjournment</p>	<p><b>Our iDEA team will be prepared to testify in support of SB 323, and we encourage iDEA members to submit a witness statement in support by clicking <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p> <p>On January 31, iDEA’s Illinois lobbyist met newly appointed House Gaming Committee Chairman Daniel Didech to discuss SB 323. Chairman Didech agreed to serve as the lead House sponsor of SB 323, and he asked iDEA to speak with a few additional members of the Committee about the bill. We are in the process of arranging these meetings. We did not spend a lot of time discussing iGaming with Chairman Didech (because the focus of the meeting was SB 323), but we believe he will be much more supportive of iGaming that other House members with whom have worked in the past.</p>

	<p>and that iGaming legalization could be given more serious consideration this year than originally anticipated.</p> <p>On Feb. 7, Senate President Pro Tempore Bill Cunningham introduced SB 1508, which would require online sports betting sites in Illinois to show a pop-up message about webpages offering help with gambling addiction after every 10 wagers made. Sen. Cunningham was the lead sponsor of last year's legislative effort to fix the supplier renewal fee.</p> <p>Copies of all bills can be accessed on the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>In a surprising development earlier this year, Illinois House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch created a Gaming Committee for the new legislative session and named Rep. Daniel Didech as the Chairman. More background can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>This development could be a very positive development for iDEA and iGaming prospects in Illinois. The "gatekeeper" for gaming legislation in the House has traditionally been House Executive Committee Chairman Bob Rita, who has usually blocked efforts to move legislation until becoming comfortable with a package of issues covered in an omnibus bill. This is how Illinois enacted sports betting in 2019 and a variety of reforms, including dropping in person registration, in late 2021. But after initially passing the Senate in 2022, the iDEA initiative to fix the supplier renewal fee was blocked by Chairman Rita in the House. The creation of the House Gaming Committee under Chairman Didech's leadership raises questions about Chairman Rita's historical role as the House gaming "gatekeeper" and his ability to unilaterally block gaming legislation.</p>	<p>iDEA and its Illinois lobbyist have a strong relationship with Chairman Didech. Given this week's developments, iDEA will meet with the Chairman to discuss the supplier bill and seek clarity as to how gaming issues will now be handled in the House. This week's changes create an opportunity for the supplier bill to pass as a standalone bill – as originally hoped – instead of waiting for an omnibus package.</p> <p>Chairman Rita being less involved could be helpful not only with respect to the supplier bill, but also with respect to iGaming legalization in Illinois. Chairman Rita is very close with the video gaming industry, which is the strongest opponent to iGaming legalization. In previous meetings with iDEA, however, Chairman Didech has expressed support for iGaming. In fact, he volunteered to be part of efforts to help educate and persuade his colleagues on the issue. When we meet with Chairman Didech, we will revisit iGaming and discuss opportunities – at least initially – for a subject matter hearing on iGaming.</p> <p>It is unlikely that iGaming will pass in the 2023 regular session. Passage in 2024 (at the earliest) is more realistic.</p>
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<b>INDIANA</b> <i>(iGaming)</i>	<p>As was referenced last week, HB1536 seemed to be on the rocks while VGT interests threatened to derail the bill. This week, the iDEA team received notification from Representative Manning that after several conversations with his committee members and with House Republican leadership, he has opted not to hear HB1536 this year. Rep. Manning indicated that his caucus leadership did not express support for local revenue distribution solutions that would have ameliorated concerns from some Public Policy Committee Republicans.</p> <p>Given recent controversies, there seems to be little support from the Chairman in moving his bill at present. Republican public policy committee members have publicly shared that the legislation deserves its justice in the public policy process for all sides to be heard. There's some indication that the Speaker may not be favorable to the bill. Indiana iDEA is working diligently to figure out a palatable and productive path forward on the issue. Rest assured, much can change in the remaining months of session.</p> <p>State Rep. Ethan Manning's iGaming bill, HB 1536 has been filed. A copy of the bill along with an accompanying fiscal note can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	<p>Feb. 23 – House committee deadline</p> <p>Feb. 27 – House third reading deadline</p> <p>Apr. 17 – Senate second reading deadline</p> <p>Apr. 18-27 - conference committees</p> <p>Apr. 27 - anticipated adjournment</p> <p>Apr. 29 - statutory sine die (official end of session)</p>	<p>The iDEA team is working on an exclusive iDEA stakeholder meeting with Speaker Huston.</p> <p>iDEA continues to work with key legislators and stakeholders to advance the i-Gaming bill.</p>
<b>KENTUCKY</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Jan. 5, Kentucky State Reps. Derrick Graham, Cherlynn Stevenson and Rachel Roberts filed HB 106, which would authorize both retail and online/mobile sports betting, daily fantasy sports and online poker. Background information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>. We anticipate that State Rep. Michael Meredith, a member of the majority, will also be filing sports betting legislation in early February.</p>	<p>Mar. 16 – concurrence deadline</p> <p>Mar. 30 – adjournment</p>	<p>iDEA will monitor the activity of the Kentucky legislature.</p>
<b>MARYLAND</b> <i>(iGaming)</i>	<p>On Feb. 15, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee will hold a hearing on SB 267, legislation to legalize online gaming in Maryland, have it be run by video lottery operators and submit the issue to a voter referendum in the November 2024 general election. More information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	<p>Feb. 15 – committee hearing for SB 267</p> <p>Apr. 10 – adjournment</p>	<p>iDEA is in the process of preparing testimony in support of SB 267. iDEA members who wish to present testimony can find instructions on how to do so in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>

<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	State Sen. John Keenan has filed Bill SD. 766 that would make sportsbooks subject to Massachusetts deceptive advertising laws. More information is available in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a> .		iDEA will monitor the activity of the Massachusetts legislature.
<b>MINNESOTA</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	We anticipate that State Rep. Zach Stephenson and State Sen. Jeremy Miller will be filing legislation to legalize sports betting in Minnesota, but we have not yet seen bills filed.	May. 22 - adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Minnesota legislature.
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	On Jan. 16, State Rep. Casey Eure filed HB 606 to legalize online sports betting in Mississippi. Under the bill, which was referred to the House Gaming Committee, land-based casinos in the state would be permitted to partner with one online operator each. Online betting would be taxed at the same rates as retail betting. A copy of the bill and more background information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a> .	Apr. 3 - adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Mississippi legislature.
<b>MISSOURI</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Feb. 8, the Missouri House Emerging Issues Committee conducted a hearing on HB 556 and HB 581, two of the six sports betting bills have been filed this year. The bills, which are identical, impose a 10% tax rate and do not provide for VLT regulation. The Committee did not pass either bill, but it is anticipated that the Committee and the House will pass at least one of the bills. As in prior years, passage in the Senate, where Sen. Denny Hoskins has insisted that sports betting legalization also provide for VLTs, will be much more difficult.</p> <p>iDEA is now tracking six bills addressing sports betting in Missouri:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">SB 1</a> filed by Sen. Denny Hoskins;</li> <li>- <a href="#">SB 30</a> filed by Sen. Tony Luetkemeyer;</li> <li>- <a href="#">SB 279</a> filed by Sen. Denny Hoskins;</li> <li>- <a href="#">HB 556</a> filed by Rep. Dan Houx;</li> <li>- <a href="#">HB 581</a> filed by Rep. Phil Christofanelli; and</li> <li>- <a href="#">HB 953</a> filed by Rep. Dave Griffith.</li> </ul>	Apr. 10 –adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Missouri legislature.
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b> <i>(iGaming)</i>	On Jan. 5, State Sen. Timothy Lang filed SB 104-FN-A to authorize online gaming in New Hampshire and direct the net proceeds to a	Jan. 3 – adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the New Hampshire legislature.

	<p>community college education scholarship fund. A copy of the bill and the hearing notice can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>On Jan. 25, the Senate Ways and Means Committee chaired by Sen. Lang conducted a hearing on SB 104-FN-A. No vote was taken on the measure, but a representative from Churchill Downs testified in opposition on the basis that online gaming would cannibalize existing retail gaming locations in the state. Notwithstanding the opposition from Churchill Downs, we believe SB 104-FN-A may still be viable.</p>		
<p><b>NEW YORK</b> <i>(iGaming)</i></p>	<p>On Jan. 31, the New York Senate Racing, Gaming, and Wagering Committee and the Assembly Racing and Wagering Committee conducted a joint subject matter hearing on mobile sports betting. Operators testified on the need to lower the state’s 51% tax rate. On Jan. 17, Sen. Joseph Addabbo filed S.1962 that would tie a reduction in the tax rate to an increase in the number of operators. Under the legislation, the tax rate would be lowered to 50% if there are 10-12 operators, 35% if there are 13-14 operators and 25% if there are 15+ operators. A copy of the bill, a link to view the hearing and more background information on the hearing and S.1962 can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>On February 1, Gov. Kathy Hochul unveiled her 2024 executive budget, but the legalization of iGaming was not included. We nevertheless expect Sen. Joseph Addabbo to file an iGaming legalization bill sometime this month.</p>	<p>Jun. 8 - adjournment</p>	<p>iDEA will monitor the activity of the New York legislature.</p>
<p><b>NORTH DAKOTA</b> <i>(Sports)</i></p>	<p>On Jan. 12, the North Dakota House of Representatives passed legislation to legalize sports betting in the state (HCR 3002) on a 49-44 vote. The measure now heads to the Senate. If approved by the Senate, the measure would be voted upon in the November 2024 general election. iDEA previously reported on this bill in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	<p>Apr. 28 – adjournment</p>	<p>iDEA will monitor the activity of the North Dakota legislature.</p>

<b>OKLAHOMA</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>The Oklahoma House Appropriations and Budget Select Agencies Subcommittee has scheduled a hearing for HB 1027 on Feb. 13. As background, HB 1027 would allow the state's tribes to amend their gaming compacts with the state and offer both retail and online sports betting and would require them to pay fees derived from sports betting to the state. In some states, having a bill sent to a subcommittee is not a promising development (i.e., it can be a tactic for killing bills), but we will continue to monitor the situation in Oklahoma. On a related note, Sen. Bill Coleman announced on Feb. 8 that he will be the lead sponsor of HB 1027 in the Senate. A copy of the bill can be accessed in the Member Portal <a href="#">here</a>, and the hearing notice can be accessed in the Member Portal <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	Feb. 13 – hearing on HB 1027	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Oklahoma legislature.
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Dec. 8, Rep. Todd Rutherford pre-filed a constitutional amendment –H 3095 Joint Resolution - to allow sports betting in South Carolina. The measure has been referred to the House Committee on Judiciary. The bill and more background info can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	May. 11 – adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the South Carolina legislature.
<b>TEXAS</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Feb. 6, State Sen. Lois Kolkhorst filed two bills, SB 715 and SJR 39, to legalize online-only sports betting. The measures, supported by operators, teams and racetracks, asks voters to decide in a November election whether they want to legalize sports betting. The legislation would impose a 10% tax rate. We expect State Rep. Jeff Leach to be the sponsor in the House. Copies of the bill can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>On Feb. 3, State Rep. Charlie Geren filed <a href="#">HJR 97</a> to put a referendum in front of Texas voters on whether to legalize land-based casinos and sports betting. This measure is supported by retail casino stakeholders. A copy of the bill can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>On Nov. 14, Sen. Carol Alvarado pre-filed sports betting legislation. The resolution, SJR 17, would create the Texas Gaming Commission, and authorize casino gaming and retail sports wagering only. A copy of the bill can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	May 29 - adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Texas legislature.

<b>VERMONT</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Feb. 2 and Feb. 3, the Vermont House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs conducted hearings on H. 127, a bill to legalize online sports betting. The Committee will conduct another hearing on Feb. 9. A copy of bill, the agenda and a link to view the hearing can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>Last year, the Vermont legislature approved a <a href="#">Sports Betting Study Committee</a>. The Committee met throughout the fall with the goal of issuing recommendations to the legislature as it considers sports betting legislation in 2023. The Committee finalized its report on Dec. 13, and the report can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	May 29 - adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Vermont legislature.
<b>VIRGINIA</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Feb. 3, SB 1142, which would reinstate sports betting promotional deductions, passed the Virginia State Senate. On the same day, HB 2202 (the companion bill to SB 1142) was tabled in the House Appropriations Committee so that technical issues could be fixed. Copies of the bills can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	Feb. 25 – adjournment	iDEA will monitor the activity of the Virginia Legislature.

## Priority States in Regulatory Phase 2023

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Opportunities
<b>OHIO</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>On Dec. 23, the Ohio Casino Control Commission scolded but did not take action against sports betting operators accused of not following advertising rules a week ahead of the official launch of legal wagering. The OCCC’s message and more background information can be also accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>As of Dec. 8, there were 3,980 sports betting license applications pending with the Ohio Casino Control Commission (OCCC). 16 online sportsbooks had been approved before the OCCC’s Dec. 14 meeting,</p>	Feb. 15 – next regular OCCC meeting	iDEA continues to engage with the OCCC on matters related to rulemaking and the launch of mobile sports betting.

	<p>the OCCC approved four more operators at its Dec. 14 meeting, and about two dozen could go live on Jan. 1.</p>		
<p><b>MAINE</b> <i>(Sports)</i></p>	<p>On Jan. 31, the Maine Gambling Control Unit (MGCU) held a public hearing on its proposed sports betting regulations. Strong opposition was directed toward the advertising rules (Chapter 64). The Maine Association of Broadcasters (supported by the National Association of Broadcasters) testified that the restrictions were illegal, unreasonable, inequitable, and unfeasible. It was strongly inferred that adoption of the rules as proposed would lead to significant litigation that the broadcasters would likely win on First Amendment grounds. The particular provisions opposed by the broadcasters were the 10-day review provision, the celebrities/entertainers/athletes prohibition, the bonuses/promotions advertising prohibition, and commercials being restricted to during live sporting events and only on the stations broadcasting the events. A link to the hearing and more background information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>On Jan. 11, the Maine Gambling Control Unit (MGCU) issued the first draft of proposed sports betting regulations. The draft rules and the notice of rulemaking can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>. The deadline for public comment is Mar. 3.</p>	<p>Mar. 3 – public comment deadline for proposed rules</p>	<p>The iDEA Legislative Committee met on Jan. 19 to discuss the proposed rules and has directed the advocacy team to submit written comments on the rules. We are in the process of drafting this letter.</p>
<p><b>MARYLAND</b> <i>(Sports)</i></p>	<p>On Oct. 27, the Maryland Lottery approved a total of 21 sports wagering applicants: 10 master licensees, 10 operators and one Class B retail.</p> <p>We understand that several mobile and Class B applications (outside of those approved on Oct. 27) are currently under consideration. Those will be approved on a rolling basis by the MD Lottery and then sent to SWARC for approvals.</p> <p>On Nov. 16, SWARC approved the issuance of the 10 master licenses, but did not act on the Class B retail approved the MD Lottery (the 10 operators approved by MD Lottery do not need SWARC approval). SWARC also noted that there were 11 remaining master license applications and 6 remaining Class B retail applications (which includes the one approved by the MD Lottery).</p>	<p>Feb. 15 – next regular SWARCC meeting</p>	<p>iDEA continues to monitor activity of the SWARC and MD Lottery and communicate with these bodies as needed.</p>

	<p>The MD Lottery will next conduct a controlled demo of the approved applicant’s platform to ensure the meet the technical/regulator standards. Once that is concluded, the operators will be issued their license and cleared to launch.</p> <p>On Nov. 23, the MD Lottery launched sports wagering.</p> <p>On Dec. 1., the MD Lottery approved four additional sports wagering applicants: 2 master licensees and 2 operators. On Dec. 14, SWARC approved the issuance of the 2 master licenses and Class B retail.</p>		
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b> <i>(Sports)</i>	<p>It was announced that Mar. 10 is the proposed date for the mobile sports betting launch.</p> <p>The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) met on Feb. 9 and discussed a couple of regulations related to sports wagering, including the advertising regulation and the temporary prohibition from sports wagering regulation. For the advertising regulation, the MGC focused on the responsible gaming messaging and will be communicating with operators what MGC has determined is required for the responsible gaming messaging requirements. For the temporary prohibition regulation, the MGC voted to grant a waiver to operators from the time periods specified in section 254.3(1), as well as the requirements in sections 254.3(3) and 254.3(4) until Mar. 17. A copy of the regulation can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p> <p>As we have previously reported, the MGC is considering a wide variety of sports betting regulations. As part of this process, the MGC is accepting public comments. The deadline for comments on one set of rules is Feb. 28, and the deadline for a separate set of rules is Mar. 21. The specific deadlines for various rules, as well as more information on the rulemaking, can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>. iDEA will be speaking with various member committees on whether to submit comments.</p>	<p>Feb. 28 – first MGC public comment deadline</p> <p>Mar. 10 – anticipated mobile sports betting launch</p> <p>Mar. 21 – second MGC public comment deadline</p>	<p>iDEA will monitor the activity of the MA Gaming Commission.</p>
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b> <i>(iGaming)</i>	<p>On Dec. 27, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) announced that it is reopening the application period for qualified gaming entities (QGE) in the state. From Jan. 3 until Mar.</p>	<p>Jan. 23-Mar. 3 – reopened application period for QGE’s</p>	<p>iDEA will monitor the activity of the PGCB</p>

	<p>3 operators can submit petitions for one of three different certificates available for online casinos. These QGEs differ from regular iGaming licenses because they don't require any ties to a land-based casino. The announcement and more background information can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	<p>Feb. 22 – PGCB meeting</p>	
<p><b>WASHINGTON</b> <i>(Sports)</i></p>	<p>On Feb. 13, the Washington State Gambling Commission (WSGC) will host a stakeholder meeting to obtain feedback on three recent rule change proposals on which the Commissioners voted to initiate rule-making proceedings, including a change to sports wagering license fees. A link to the meeting can be accessed on the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>. Copies of the recommendations can be accessed in the <a href="#">Member Portal</a>.</p>	<p>Feb. 13 – WSGC meeting on rule changes</p>	<p>iDEA will be working with the Legislative Committee to determine next steps as a result of these recommendations.</p>