

August 02, 2024

Latest state updates highlighted in green

Priority States: Legislative Sports Betting 2024

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
DELAWARE	<p>HB 365 will not advance out of the legislature this session.</p> <p>iDEA testified in support of the bill at a hearing earlier this year, as did other iDEA members. A copy of iDEA's testimony can be found on the Member Portal.</p>	June 30 – Adjournment	iDEA will continue to connect with legislative leaders to promote competition and prepare for the next legislative session.
District of Columbia (Washington DC)	<p>On 07/16 evening the Mayor returned the budget bill to the City Council permitting the law to go forward. As a result OSB operators were permitted to launch on 07/17. Currently three operators are live and we anticipate three additional operators to launch ahead of NFL.</p> <p>Jeff Ifrah recently met with Peter Alvarado and Antar Johnson of Washington DC's Office of Lottery and Gaming (OLG). A summary of the meeting is included in the following MEMO for iDEA members.</p>	August 15, 2024- Possible launch date for Class C licensees	iDEA is monitoring developments in DC and will relay them to membership.

ILLINOIS	<p>The legislature approved a new progressive tax rate for sports betting operators as part of the state’s budget. The Governor is expected to sign the bill. As we reported last week, the legislature ultimately settled on a progressive tax rate which imposes a higher tax rate when higher revenue thresholds are met.</p> <p>The structure is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First \$30 million in adjusted revenue taxed at 20% • Revenue between \$30-\$50 million: 25% Revenue between \$50 million and \$100 million: 30% • Revenue \$100 million to \$200 million: 35% • Revenue above \$200 million: 40% <p>The new budget also imposes a slightly higher tax on VLT operators, which was an unexpected addition to the budget.</p>	May 24 – Legislature set to adjourn, however, they can extend if a budget is not agreed upon.	Jeff Ifrah, authored an op-ed that ran in the largest newspaper covering the Illinois state capital. In the piece iDEA explains the unintended consequences of a tax increase and how it will create less market activity instead of more. Further, we advocate for iGaming as a more reliable revenue stream for the state.
NEBRASKA	<p>On 07/31 the Nebraska General Affairs Committee discussed legislation to authorize mobile sports betting. . A copy of the bill is available on the Member Portal. Several entities and individuals came out to oppose the bill, while some IDEA members provided data and reasoning for legalization.</p> <p>Ultimately, we believe the bill has the support to pass out of the Committee, but does not have sufficient support to pass the full legislature. Proponents are working to secure support over the weekend, and a decision to move the bill forward will be made early next week. If the bill does not proceed, we believe the state will consider the legislation next year during the regular legislative session.</p>	Week of August 4 – Expected final week of Special Session.	iDEA will be engaging with state lawmakers on why the state should legalize mobile betting.

MISSOURI	<p>The Secretary of State has not yet certified the ballot initiative that would legalize sports betting. We do understand that there will be organized opposition possibly coming from some land-based casinos as well as the VLT industry.</p> <p>Current polling in the state looks like a toss up on the issue, which could be problematic should the opposition invest heavily on defeating the measure.</p>		<p>IDEA will actively monitor the progress of the ballot initiative and take proactive steps to secure public support for the measure.</p>
-----------------	---	--	--

Priority States: Legislative iGaming 2024

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
Alberta, Canada	<p>The Alberta government continues to move towards a new competitive online gaming market. We understand that consultations with First Nations (Canadian Tribes) are currently underway. Working with these stakeholders will be critical to how quickly Alberta can launch.</p> <p>Alberta Ministry officials have indicated a desire to streamline regulations and licensing to have the market running before the end of the year. They are likely to accept the established Ontario scheme as their model and permit Ontario licensed entities to operate in the Alberta market.</p>	<p>Summer – Expected consultation from stakeholders on best practices.</p> <p>Nov/Dec – Possible launch of market.</p>	IDEA is monitoring developments in Alberta. We are identifying opportunities to engage with the Province and the Minister's office either through the consultation process or directly.
MARYLAND	<p>iDEA is working with local lobbyists and other stakeholders to build support for iGaming going into the 2025 session.</p> <p>On 06/17 we sponsored an event for MD Gov. Wes Moore. At the event we were able to speak directly with the Governor about the opportunity for iGaming to deliver significant tax revenue to the state.</p> <p>The state's fiscal situation will require the legislature to find new revenue streams in 2025. To date, the Senate has resisted turning to expanded gambling and getting support from Senate Majority Leader Ferguson remains a high priority.</p>	August – MD Legislature Conference (Ocean City, MD)	iDEA is using the Summer months to evaluate the Maryland opportunity for 2025. Including engagement with the Senate to remove their opposition and identify a champion. We also will continue to work with Vanessa Atterbeary to keep her engaged on the topic and further educate her about tax rates and other costs that he bill last year would have passed on to the regulated industry. We are currently suspending our engagement with Cornerstone (our local lobbying firm), but are negotiating how to engage them over the next several months.
NEW JERSEY	This week, New Jersey lawmakers unveiled a state budget proposal for the 2025 fiscal year that does not include increased internet gaming tax revenue from sports betting and online casinos.	December 31, 2024-adjourns	iDEA continues to monitor the New Jersey Legislature.

	<p>Even though the tax increase wasn't included in the budget, given what we have seen in other states, we expect to see continued activity in New Jersey around increasing the tax rate. iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the New Jersey Legislature.</p> <p>A bill was introduced this week that would raise the tax rate for iGaming and internet sports betting to 30%. According to the Sponsor, S3064, is still being drafted into bill language.</p> <p>While the state is currently experiencing a budget surplus, it is expected to go into deficits in the coming years which is likely the impetus for finding new/increased revenues. We are not aware that this proposal has support from the Governor's office, but we do know that some lawmakers have been floating the idea of a tax increase for the past few months.</p>		
NEW YORK	<p>iDEA spoke with Sen. Addabbo on 02/21 and he says that the trade union opposition to the bill means that it will not move this year. He has tried to engage with them on their concerns, but they are not willing to negotiate.</p> <p>Rep. Gary Pretlow introduced AB9198 which is an identical bill to Senator Addabbo's iGaming bill. There has been no progress on advancing legislation this session.</p> <p>Senator Addabbo has introduced his iGaming bill. A full breakdown of his proposal can be found on the Member Portal.</p>	April 1 – Budget due	iDEA continues to engage with Addabbo and other lawmakers.