iDEA Growth through regulated online gaming
iDevelopment & Economic Association

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Latest state updates highlighted in green

Priority States: Legislative Sports Betting 2024

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
DELAWARE	HB 365 is awaiting a hearing and vote in the House Appropriations Committee. Due to a fiscal note that discounts the possible tax revenues from a competitive sports betting model, it seems unlikely that the bill can advance out of the Committee. iDEA testified in support of the bill at last week's hearing, as did other iDEA members. A copy of iDEA's testimony can be found on the Member Portal. The bill will permit the three state authorized racetrack casinos to have two mobile sports betting brands. Operators would be taxed at 18% and pay a $500k 5-year license fee. There is a "hold harmless" provision in the bill to protect the horse tracks from losing money due to the expansion of mobile sports betting. Earlier this year, RSI took over the online gaming contract with the state lottery and began offering mobile sports betting for time. They are opposed to opening the market to additional competition.	June 30 – Adjournment	iDEA will continue to connect with legislative leaders about the bill and how competition in the market will create a better consumer experience and ultimately more state revenues.
District of Columbia (Washington DC)	The Sports Wagering Amendment Act is still being considered by the DC City Council. The bill would permit up to 7 online betting platforms to operate in the nation's capital. Currently, there is a single operator.	Mid June – DC Budget for 2025 expected to be concluded.	iDEA is monitoring developments in DC and will relay them to membership.

	While the issue has not had a public hearing since early May, the Council is facing budget shortfalls, so many revenue generating items are now up for consideration as they attempt to finalize their budget in the coming days.		
ILLINOIS	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. The structure is: ● 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% The new budget also imposes a slightly higher tax on VLT operators, which was an unexpected addition to the budget.	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.
MASSACHUSETTS	State Senator John Keenan's budget amendment to increase the sports betting tax rate to 51% was defeated by the state Senate. Separately, online lottery, which has support in the state House, is not being considered by the Senate.		iDEA has engaged state lawmakers about the amendment to build opposition to the tax increase.
MISSOURI	Proponents of mobile sports betting delivered more than 340,000 signatures so that it can be considered on the ballot this November. Once the signatures are certified by the Secretary of State, the constitutional amendment will be eligible to be voted on by the public.		IDEA will actively monitor the progress of the ballot initiative and take proactive steps to secure public support for the measure.

	While there is not any announced organized opposition, we understand that some land-based casinos oppose this effort as it would extend the rights to offer gaming beyond the purview of existing licensed riverboat casinos.		

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Alberta, Canada	The Alberta legislature has passed a bill that would permit the provincial government to conduct and manage gaming in the province as well as the provincial lottery. This has the practical effect of opening up iGaming and sports betting to a competitive model. Over the coming weeks/months the minister will be engaging with stakeholders directly and through public consultation to discuss best practices. Ministry officials have indicated a desire to streamline regulations and licensing and have suggested that they could accept the established Ontario scheme as their model and permit Ontario licensed entities to operate in the Ontario market.	Summer – Expected consultation from stakeholders on best practices.	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	iDEA is working with local lobbyists and other stakeholders to build support for iGaming going into the 2025 session. 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.	June 17 – Event with Wes Moore August – MD Legislature Conference (Ocean City, MD)	We are continuing to engage with Chair Atterbeary (our House champion) to best position iGaming for future consideration. iDEA is participating in an event with Maryland Governor Wes Moore and will be engaging with him on our priorities.
NEW JERSEY	At this time, the Senate President has no intention of taking action on the gaming tax increase bill. iDEA will continue to closely monitor the New Jersey Legislature, especially the budget negotiation process that will take place over the next several months.	December 31, 2024-adjourns	iDEA continues to monitor the New Jersey Legislature.

	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. 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. If this bill is to move, it would likely be tied to the state budget which will be considered over the next several months.		
NEW YORK	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. 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. Senator Addabbo has introduced his iGaming bill. A full breakdown of his proposal can be found on the Member Portal.	April 1 – Budget due	iDEA continues to engage with Addabbo and other lawmakers.