

Legislative Updates: iGaming

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
ALBERTA	Alberta has now officially opened the pathway for regulated iGaming and sports betting. The AGLC has begun accepting registration applications from interested iGaming operators and service providers. Geolocation providers, affiliate marketers, and PSPs are not required to be licensed. The market will have many similarities to Ontario with respect to ad restrictions and RG. There will be an Alberta specific self exclusion program that operators are required to integrate. There are operational similarities too, including the need to enter into a commercial operating agreement with the Alberta iGaming Corporation (AiGC), the agency that will manage and oversee the competitive market. There will be an 80/20 NGR revenue split between the province and operators, but after 3% (first nations) and 1% (RG) are removed from GGR. Alberta is running a first-come, first-served application regime, meaning early applicants may secure competitive advantages ahead of go-live Helpful Links: Standards and Technical Standards Application Guide iGaming Strategy	No firm date has not yet been set, expected to launch later in 2026	iDEA will continue to monitor developments in Alberta, and provide updates. .

INDIANA	In a surprising move, the House did not approve the Lottery bill, thereby killing any mobile gaming expansion efforts for the year.	End of February: Session Adjournment target	iDEA is monitoring the situation and connecting with local stakeholders to continue to advocate for iGaming.
MAINE	On 1/08 the Maine governor signed an iGaming bill that had been sitting on her desk since last summer. The bill gives the state's gaming tribes the exclusive right to offer online gaming. There are 4 tribes who currently have OSB partnerships with mobile operators. For many of our operator members this market opening will not likely result in an opportunity to offer a B2C product in the state. HOWEVER, it does help to build timely momentum as states like Virginia and Indiana consider iGaming legislation. Not to mention a biz opportunity for iDEA's supplier members. Opponents of the bill have pledged to seek to overturn this law by seeking a voter referendum. If they pursue this path it could stall enactment of the law until after the November elections. The Chair of the Gaming Commission testified this week, that barring any disruption of the enactment of the bill the market should be operational in early 2027.	Bill becomes effective 90 days after the session concludes. Currently set for April 15, putting enactment in mid July (pending potential challenge)	iDEA will monitor any developments around this new law and coordinate with members if action is needed to maintain it.
MARYLAND	Working off the bills that were introduced in the House and Senate last year as the basis for this new bill, Senator Ron Watson is readying an iGaming bill for introduction. He reached out to iDEA asking for some comments to questions he had from Legislative Counsel, which we've responded to. You can see our comments here	Session Start – 01/14/2026	We continue to speak with Senator Watson about making these changes. We expect that he will be dropping a final bill soon.

	iDEA's primary recommendations focused on streamlining licensing eligibility while maintaining market competitiveness. iDEA also recommended reducing the proposed tax rate, currently set at 55% for non-live dealer gaming and 20% for live dealer games.		
MASS	On 11/13 iDEA participated in a hearing on H4431. The hearing covered several gaming bills including one from Senator Keenan which would impose onerous controls on the industry that aim to curb problem gambling. His bill is S.302. The discussion around iGaming reflected a mix of support and opposition. iDEA presented on a panel alongside the bill's sponsor and DraftKings, while responsible gaming advocates, unions, and NAAIG voiced their opposition to the measure. You can find a recording of the full hearing here – iGaming discussion begins around the 40:00 minute mark. Lawmakers seemed sympathetic to the RG witnesses who presented, but are genuinely interested in learning more about the scope of problem gambling and what can be done to prevent it.	Nov 13 – Hearing date	iDEA was an active participant in the hearing both explaining the merits of iGaming and defending against the opponents claims. We are following up with every committee member to continue to be a resource to them moving forward. You can read our submitted testimony on the Web Portal.
NEW YORK	Senate and House bills have been re-ordered to the respective gaming committees. Chair Addabbo is the Senate sponsor and Chair Woerner is the House sponsor. Challenges remain with strong opposition from the hotel worker trades and very little leadership coming from the Governor on this issue. Biggest opportunity is to tie iGaming as a pay-for for the ambitious social agenda being pushed by NYC mayor who will have a tremendous amount of influence over the	Session Starts – 01/07/2026	iDEA continues to work with Senator Addabbo closely and we are also engaging with Chair Woerner. We recently submitted written testimony regarding Responsible Gaming. The testimony can be accessed here. We are working on some media to push for iGaming in the coming weeks.

	legislature this year.		
OHIO	iDEA met with Ohio lawmakers at the NCLGS conference – Rep. Bride Sweeney, Vice Chair of the House Finance Committee & Minority Leader Dani Issacsohn. It was an excellent meeting and we discussed a variety of issues from consumer protection, impact of land-based gaming and revenue potential. Leader Issacsohn called himself an iGaming skeptic, but has become more open to it because of education efforts from iDEA and others. Rep. Sweeney believes that iGaming should be considered because of the state’s need for tax revenues, however, Democrats and Republicans are divided on how the money should be spent. While Democrats are in the minority in both the House and Senate, we believe securing their support for iGaming will be essential for future passage. Prospects for a bill are not great this next session because the current Governor is strongly opposed to any gambling expansion.	Session Starts – 01/05/2026	iDEA's lobbyist has been monitoring the various gaming bills being considered and is also meeting with lawmakers on our behalf. iDEA members who attended the Ohio lawmakers meeting included: DraftKings, FanDuel, Bally's, Aristocrat, Playtech and GeoComply. John Pappas also met separately with Sens. Nathan Manning (iGaming bill sponsor) and Bill DeMora. We had productive conversations with both lawmakers, however, they echoed that moving a bill this next session would be difficult because of the Governor's opposition.
VIRGINIA	While it moved out of the subcommittee on Jan 23, SB 118 did not receive a YES recommendation. This does not prevent the bill from being considered by the full committee, which will likely occur next week. A full summary of the subcommittee meeting, focus of iDEA's testimony, and next steps can be found on the Member Portal.	Jan 14 – Session formally begins Jan 28 – Full Committee meeting	iDEA testified at the hearing on 01/23, and have been meeting with lawmakers. We will be back in Richmond next week (weather permitting) to help secure more support for the bill ahead of a full Committee vote.

Legislative Updates: Sports Betting

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
ARIZONA	In Arizona, the Governor has proposed increasing the sports betting tax rate from 10% to 45% in her budget proposal announced last week. Though not all are specific to the sports tax increase, there is already sweeping opposition to her budget in its entirety from the Republican-led legislature. The Governor is a Democrat while Republicans control both the House and Senate. Though the budget process is in the very early stages, ultimately some increase of the tax rate is expected in a final product.	June 30, 2026 – Deadline for state to finalize budget.	iDEA is monitoring the situation and coordinating with stakeholder. We will engage as we have in other states to successfully hold back large tax increases.
GEORGIA	A sports betting bill was re-introduced this week, by Rep. Hatchett, HB 910. This bill does not require a constitutional amendment. While a preferable approach, it has run into opposition as lawmakers believe that this should ultimately go to the ballot. The Speaker of the House continues to be less than enthusiastic about pushing this policy.	Session Convened: Jan 12, 2026 Adjourns: April 9, 2026	iDEA is engaging with stakeholders and sharing perspectives about sports wagering legalization.
HAWAII	We anticipate new sports betting bills to be introduced this year. Last year a bill made it all the way to the final stages, only to die in conference committee on the last day of session.	Session Convened: Jan 21, 2026 Adjourns: May 8th	iDEA will monitor developments in Hawaii.

MARYLAND	Bills have been introduced that would impact the sports betting market. Notably, a bill (HB291) filed by the Lottery/Gaming Commission would give them broad authority to limit promotional deductions. They have attempted to eliminate promo-play in recent years, but have failed to because of limits on their authority to do so. Another bill (HB 46) would create a pilot program, requiring operators to geofence certain areas of select college campuses. This is being proposed to evaluate, if it can be a way to prevent underage gambling and problem gambling on college campuses.	HB 291 hearing on Jan 21. HB 46 hearing on Jan 29.	iDEA is engaging with lawmakers on these proposals and will evaluate whether to testify.
MISSISSIPPI	Multiple bills have been introduced this session which would open the market to mobile sports betting. The chair of the House Gaming Committee, Casey Eure, has not yet intro'd legislation. Previously his bills cleared the House, but stalled in the Senate. The same opposition remains in the Senate, with some land-based casinos urging lawmakers to oppose due to cannibalization concerns.	Session Convened: Jan 6, 2026. Session Adjourns: April 4, 2026	iDEA will monitor developments in MS.
NEW YORK	This week the Governor urged the Gaming Commission to push for technologies that would prevent underage access to sports betting. The concern is not with account creation, but with legitimate accounts being shared or accessed by those underage. The Commission responded immediately, saying they plan to explore a variety of ways to address this. There have also been several other bills	Session Starts – 01/07/2026	iDEA will engage with lawmakers to advise on these legislative and regulatory proposals. We are connecting next week with Senator Addabbo to discuss iGaming and defensive strategy on sports betting.

	introduced related to RG and prop bet limitations in NY. We believe that House Chair Woerner intends to bring these bills up for discussion this session.		
WISCONSIN	House Bill 601, is expected to return the agenda in the coming weeks. The bills would leverage IGRA to allow sports bets made by a person located in Wisconsin using a mobile or other electronic device if the server used to conduct the wager is physically located on a federally recognized American Indian tribe's Indian lands and if the sports wager is conducted pursuant to a compact between a tribe and Wisconsin.	Jan 13 – 22: Next floor session.	iDEA will continue to monitor the Wisconsin Legislature.

Regulatory Updates

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MARYLAND	Maryland has issued several new proposed regulations related to sports wagering that can be found here. These new rules posted on 12/15 focus on data security of player information, self exclusions and advertising. We are continuing to engage with the regulator on a proposal to reduce the promotional deduction threshold to 5%. We understand that the rules will be put on hold through the state legislative review committee, but only as a temporary solution.		iDEA has proactively reached out to the Commission and shared our concerns with the proposed amendment.
OHIO	The Gaming Commission has been seeking to update the KYC/ID standards in the state to curb fraud related to identity. They have issued several draft rules since last year and on 01/08 issued their latest draft. This version moves away from the prescriptive and problematic measures that were previously proposed and creates an opportunity for OSBs to have a thorough, risk-based approach, to fraud prevention.	Comment Deadline: 5pm on January 22.	iDEA will monitor activity at the OCCC on this matter and weigh-in as needed.