iDEA
iDevelopment & Economic Association

Weekly Update
January 24, 2025
Latest state updates highlighted in green

Legislative Updates: iGaming

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
ILLINOIS	Lawmakers have committed to introduce iGaming legislation for the upcoming session. The state-regulated VGT industry continues to oppose iGaming and has influence with the legislature. However, one of the larger VGT operators is now an owner of a Racino and would be positioned to capitalize on iGaming. There is also discussion of a compromise iGaming bill, which would be limited to poker and table games, removing slot games which are viewed competitively by the VGTs. We also expect legislation related to the regulation of DFS to be introduced this session.	Session Starts: 01/08/25 Adourns: 05/31/25	iDEA is engaging with stakeholders and lawmakers ahead of the upcoming session. We have not engaged a lobbyist in the state.
INDIANA	On 01/28 the Public Policy Committee will hold a hearing and a vote on iGaming legislation. The bill can be found here and the iDEA summary is on the Member Portal. We understand that the bill sponsor (who is also the chairman of the Committee) intends to offer a substitute amendment to his bill, which would include increasing the current sports betting tax rate to 20%.	Jan. 28th- Hearing and vote in Committee on HB 1432	iDEA is testifying at the hearing on 01/28. Our position will be of support for the bill, but share concerns over certain provisions and to encourage continued discussions on how the bill can be improved – we are meeting with the chair/sponsor, outside of the hearing to discuss these concerns. The hearing begins at 8:30am ET and can be streamed via this link.
LOUISIANA	iDEA testified at the Louisiana Senate Committee hearing on iGaming on 12/11 alongside other members, including Light & Wonder, Boyd, and Fanatics.	Session Starts – 04/14/25 Session Adjourns –	iDEA is working with lawmakers and other industry stakeholders to advance legislation during the legislative session which starts in April.

	Opposition also voiced their views, including representatives from Cordish (opening a casino in Louisiana next year), the Video Poker industry (a prominent stakeholder in the state), and The Campaign for Fairer Gambling. Following testimony from Cordish and the Video Poker representative, iDEA had the opportunity to refute their claims and highlight that Cordish is already a proud operator of online casinos in Pennsylvania. Read this for a recap of the hearing. With the legislative session not starting until April, we have ample time to build on today's momentum and continue delivering our message. You can view the hearing here.	16/12/25	We are following up with members of the Committee who participated in the 12/11 hearing with additional information and studies to help bolster iGaming.
MARYLAND	Senator Watson's bill will be subject to a hearing in the Senate Budget and Tax Committee on 01/29. The Chairman of this committee has not been supportive of iGaming and several members of the Committee are traditionally opposed. Senator Watson is working with iDEA and other stakeholders to have a strong panel to support iGaming regulation, but he knows that there are several concerns with his bill as drafted. There is an effort to remove the constitutional referendum requirement from iGaming. This is critical because the state needs the money now. A referendum couldn't happen until Nov 26, thus, no revenue to the state until 2027 at the earliest. Getting the State AG to issue an opinion that removes this requirement is a big political challenge.	Jan 29th – Senate Budget Hearing scheduled Feb 10 – House Ways and Means hearing scheduled Adjourns – 04/07/25	iDEA met with bill sponsors, committee chairs and legislative leaders on 01/23. A key part of our messaging was to show the revenue potential for iGaming. See our one-pager here (NEED TO LINK). We are testifying at the hearing on 01/29. We are working with other stakeholders to connect with other advocacy groups that are negatively impacted by the state's budget crisis to see if they will support iGaming as a budget solution. We hope to start those discussions next week.

NEW YORK	Senator Addabbo has introduced his i-gaming bill, S2614. Under S2614, eligible iGaming licensees include casinos, VLT facilities, Indian tribes, and online sports betting providers. • Labor peace agreement required as a condition of licensure. • 30.5% tax rate • $2m/$10m license fee. • 1 online brand (skin) per licensee • License duration of 10 yrs • Live dealer games included, but studio must be physically located in New York • Promotional bet deductions capped at 1.75% after Y1 • Online account registration allowed • $2,500 annual limit on credit card funding • Daily, weekly & monthly self-exclusion limits • Once an account holder's lifetime deposits exceed $2,500, licensee must bar further wagering until additional disclosures and acknowledgments are made concerning problem gambling resources • Licensees must also annually submit problem gaming plan to be approved by the NYS Gaming Commission.	Session Started – 01/08/25 Adjourns – 06/13/25	iDEA has a meeting scheduled with Senator Addabbo to discuss his bill. iDEA continues to monitor developments and continues to engage with key lawmakers.
WYOMING	HB 162 will be scheduled for a committee hearing on Thursday, January 30th at noon Mountain Time. At the conclusion of the hearing, it is anticipated that there will be a committee vote on the bill.	Jan. 30-HB 162 committee hearing End of March – Session adjourns.	iDEA will be testifying at the Committee hearing. iDEA's Wyoming lobbyist met with the House bill sponsors this week. She also continues to meet with the committee members about the bill as well as educating them on who iDEA is.

	The bill and more info is available on the Member Portal.		

Legislative Updates: Sports Betting

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
GEORGIA	The state will be a leading contender to pass a bill in 2025. Recently, the chairman of the lead house committee on this issue wrote an op-ed urging his fellow Republican lawmakers to support in this upcoming session. A law passed by the legislature would need to be ratified by the voters via a ballot referendum.	Session Starts: 01/13/25 Adjourns: 04/03/25	iDEA will continue to monitor activity.
MINNESOTA	Senator Jeremy Miller has put forth the Minnesota Sports Betting Act 3.0, which is an updated version of his sports betting proposal from previous sessions. Key components of the Minnesota Sports Betting Act 3.0 include: • The bill would allow Minnesota's 11 tribes to have a license for on-site and/or mobile sports betting. • 20% revenue tax on license holders, which	Session Started – 01/14/25 Session Adjourns – 05/19/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Minnesota Legislature.

	after fully implemented, would generate about $80 million per year of state tax revenue. • Tax revenue from Minnesota's sports betting program would be split as follows: 50% for tax relief on charitable gambling, 25% to bring major sporting events to Minnesota, 20% to enhance horse racing in the state, 2.5% for mental health and problem gambling support, and 2.5% for grants to support youth sports. The Minnesota Legislature continues to be in an unusual position. There are upcoming special elections for open seats in each chamber due to the death of a Senator and the disqualification of a House lawmaker. These special elections will determine the balance of power in each chamber. Democrats are favored in each race. Further complicating things, there is an on-going debate on how many members are needed for a quorum in the House. The Republicans currently have a one-seat, 67 to 66 majority (until the special election for the vacant House seat is held). The Republicans believe that due to the vacant seat, 67 members present is enough for a quorum and the Republicans have elected a Speaker and been holding session. The Democrats have argued that 68 members is required for a quorum. They have been boycotting session in an effort to prevent a quorum from being achieved. This dispute has ended up before the Minnesota Supreme Court, who heard oral arguments earlier this week about the quorum issue. Due to these issues, we expect substantive		

	discussions around sports betting to be delayed until much later in the session, which ends in May.		
MISSISSIPPI	Rep. Eure has introduced HB 1302, which creates the Mississippi Mobile Sports Wagering Act. The bill was referred to the House Gaming Committee, which Rep. Eure chairs. Rep. Eure was the sponsor of the bill that advanced in the legislative process and ultimately died in conference committee last session. We anticipate legislative action on HB 1302 this legislative session.	Session Started – 01/07/25 Adjourns – 04/04/25	iDEA has reached out to Rep. Eure to gain insight on when he anticipates action on the bill. iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Mississippi Legislature.
NEBRASKA	HB 241 was introduced last week to authorize mobile sports betting. Bill can be found on the Member Portal. The bill would permit up to 6 online sports betting operators (tethered to landbased casinos). $5m one time licensing fee and a 20% tax rate. State leaders, including the Governor, have signaled support because they want to use the revenue to offset property taxes. We anticipate a hearing in the next few weeks.	Session Starts: 01/08/25 Adjourns: 05/31/25	iDEA will be monitoring legislative activity.
TEXAS	In the last session (2023) the Texas House approved sports betting bill, however it was killed in the Senate where it was not supported by Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick.	Session Starts: 01/14/25 Adjourns: 06/02/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Texas Legislature.

	While we expect sports betting legislation to be considered in the upcoming 2025 legislative session, Lt. Governor Patrick remains in office and has said he will not move off his opposition until a majority of Republican Senators come out in support of it. Further complicating the situation is the push to legalize land-based casinos. This has even less support than sports betting, however, some businesses who are advocating for it have said they would actively oppose sports betting, if casino legislation does not also advance.		
WISCONSIN	The tribes in Wisconsin have expressed interest in offering state-wide mobile sports betting. There could be a legislative and/or administrative strategy (negotiation of compacts) during 2025.	Session Starts: 01/07/25 Adjourns; December 2025	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Wisconsin legislature.

iDEA Regulatory Advocacy

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
MISSOURI	The Commission has shared DRAFT licensing rules and licensing applications with stakeholders and are seeking input by COB on 01/17/2025. Rules related to the operations of sports wagering are not expected to be shared until later this month. The emergency regulations will have to be signed by the incoming Missouri Governor and also approved by the Missouri Attorney General's Office. Best case scenario is that the emergency sports betting regulations would be in place by mid-February, which would allow the gaming commission to begin the license application. The Commission has a reputation for an intensive gaming licensing process and we expect this to be the same for sports betting. Launch is not expected until early Summer of 2025.	Jan 17 – Comments due on licensing rules Late Jan – Possible draft rules issued. Spring 2025 – applications and license review process (est) Summer 2025 – Market launch	IDEA is engaging with the Missouri Gaming Commission to ensure our member company perspectives are heard during the regulatory process.
MARYLAND	On Monday, the rules to prohibit promo deductions for sports betting and retail casinos were published in the Maryland Register. This opens a 30 day comment window. We understand that lawmakers intend to put a hold on these rules in the new year, which will delay, but are not guaranteed to eliminate the proposals.	01/02 – comment deadline on rules published on 12/02	iDEA is monitoring these regulatory developments and will continue to update membership.