

Legislative Updates: iGaming

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
<p>ALBERTA, CAN</p>	<p>Bill 48 has passed paving the way for a competitively run online gambling market and enabling the Minister to move forward with building a regulatory framework.</p> <p>The legislation creates a model similar to Ontario where a newly formed Alberta iGaming Corp will oversee the market. Key details such as licensing rule, RG measures and tax rates are still to come.</p> <p>No timeline for launch has been provided, but we are anticipating launch in the first half of 2026.</p>		<p>iDEA will continue to monitor the developments in Alberta, and will be engaging with the regulator throughout the rulemaking process.</p>
<p>ILLINOIS</p>	<p>HB 3080 (see bill summary on the member portal) had a committee hearing this week. It faced opposition from different entities such as the Illinois Gaming Board, the Illinois Municipal League, the Illinois Licensed Beverage Association, and various fraternal organizations.</p> <p>A lot of the arguments that opponents made were about the potential negative impact iGaming would have at the local level in terms of the economy and jobs as well as local control that entities have hosting VGTs in areas without land-based casinos. Arguments were also made by opponents that iGaming revenue would take away from VGT revenue.</p> <p>To offset this opposition, Rep. Gonzalez offered the potential of an amendment that would include a</p>	<p>Adourns: 05/31/25</p>	<p>iDEA is reaching out to sponsors and will be engaging with stakeholders and lawmakers over the coming weeks. We have not engaged a lobbyist in the state.</p> <p>Should iGaming be part of the hearing on March 19, iDEA will present testimony.</p>

	<p>"hold harmless provision" so small businesses and fraternal organizations that rely on VGT revenue would not suffer financial losses if iGaming is legalized.</p> <p>HB 3080 is posted on the agenda for a March 19th hearing but the bill may not be called. See the committee posting here.</p>		
<p>LOUISIANA</p>	<p>This week iDEA met with the Louisiana Gaming Commission. The agency is prepared and able to regulate iGaming, and suggested that legislation would be introduced this session, however that it was unlikely to pass.</p> <p>The challenges include opposition from video poker interests and division of support for iGaming from the land-based casino industry. Earlier this year, Cordish opened the state's newest casino and they are spearheading opposition attempts.</p> <p>In December of last year, iDEA testified in support of iGaming at an informational hearing. That testimony can be seen here.</p>	<p>Session Adjourns – 16/12/25</p>	<p>iDEA is working with lawmakers and other industry stakeholders to advance legislation during the legislative session which starts in April.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>MARYLAND</p>	<p>The Legislature adjourned without addressing iGaming. The budget does include an increase in the sports betting tax rate from 15% to 20%. which was a compromise from the proposed 30% rate.</p> <p>The state is still facing budget issues and lawmakers are already discussing whether they come back later this year for a special session. This presents an opportunity for iGaming to resurface as a budget solution.</p>	<p>Adjourns – 04/07/25</p>	<p>We remain engaged with lawmakers to monitor the possibility of a special session.</p> <p>We have been sharing the iDEA oped with lawmakers and others to set up iGaming for the special session. .</p> <p>Here is a link to the article: JFRAH OP-ED It can also be viewed as a PDF on the Member Portal.</p>

<p>MASS</p>	<p>Earlier this week we met with Rep. Cahill's office. He is the lead sponsor of iGaming legislation. The committees are just getting organized and they don't expect that their iGaming bill will be heard before they finalize the budget.</p> <p>He is excited to have iDEA as a resource and has asked that we be available to testify and meet with lawmakers in the coming months.</p> <p>Links to House and Senate bills that would impose a \$5m licensing fee (5 year renewal) and a 20% tax rate. There would be up to 10 online licenses available: 6 tethered to land based casinos and 4 untethered.</p>	<p>11/19/25: target adjournment date</p>	<p>MA has a full year legislative session, so it's unlikely that iGaming will be given a priority before May.</p>
<p>NEW JERSEY</p>	<p>As was previously shared, the New Jersey Governor has proposed a tax Increase on online gaming and sports betting (see Member Portal).</p> <p>The Governor's primary election is June 10th and it is likely that the budget won't happen until after the primary. The two front-runners in the race are Jack Ciattarelli (R) and Mikie Sherrill (D). Depending on what happens in the primary, that will help determine if there will be a tax increase and how much.</p>	<p>June 10-Governor's Primary Election</p>	<p>iDEA is preparing an op-ed to run on the tax increase issue. Also, over the next few weeks, iDEA will be directly engaging with New Jersey lawmakers on this issue.</p> <p>iDEA has retained some local support in the state for direct and indirect lobbying.</p> <p>iDEA continues to monitor developments and continues to engage with key lawmakers.</p>
<p>NEW YORK</p>	<p>A companion bill to Senator Addabbo's i-gaming bill was introduced in the New York Assembly. The bill number is A6027 and it was introduced by Assemblywoman Woerner. It was referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering, which Assemblywoman Woerner is the Committee Chair.</p> <p>We spoke with Senator Addabbo on 01/27 about his bill (see bill summary on the Member Portal).</p>	<p>April 1 = Deadline for budget approval</p> <p>Adjourns – 06/13/25</p>	<p>iDEA continues to monitor developments and continues to engage with key lawmakers.</p>

	<p>He views that the most likely path for it is to be part of the budget. There continues to be opposition from the trade unions who, to date, have been unwilling to negotiate on what they would like to see in the bill.</p> <p>The continued delay in the downstate land-based casino licenses also is an issue that could hold up meaningful discussion of iGaming this session.</p>		
<p>OHIO</p>	<p>As we shared last week, Ohio will be the next state to consider iGaming. This week House Chair of the Finance Committee, Rep. Brian Stewart, confirmed to the media that he intends to file legislation. We expect that Senator Nathan Manning would introduce a similar bill in the Senate. The Speaker of the House has indicated that these bills would need to go through "regular order" therefore we expect them to be introduced as standalone bills rather than tied to a budget bill.</p> <p>While this could get support in the legislature, the Governor has indicated that he would oppose iGaming. Jack Casino will be a strong opponent.</p> <p>Last year, the Future of Gaming Commission issued a report recommending that the state legalize iGaming. More info on that report in the Member Portal.</p>	<p>Budget deadline: June 30</p> <p>Legislature is year-round</p>	<p>We are talking with stakeholders about the likelihood of an iGaming bill progressing. There are a number of complicating factors that may lead this to be more of a discussion to set the stage for legalization in a future session.</p> <p>We have positioned the association to be a resource to Reps Stewart and Sen Manning.</p>

Legislative Updates: Sports Betting

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
CONNECTICUT	<p>iDEA provided testimony in opposition to HB 5269 at a legislative hearing a little while back (see Member Portal).</p> <p>While HB 5269 has been voted out of committee, it doesn't appear the bill will move much farther in the legislative process and if it does, it is likely to be amended with more favorable language.</p> <p>We understand that a new omnibus gaming bill will be introduced in the Senate as soon as next week.</p>	Adjournment: 06/04/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Connecticut Legislature.
HAWAII	<p>HB1308 was not approved by the conference committee and the legislature will adjourn without approving a final bill.</p>	Adjournment: 05/02/25	iDEA is monitoring developments in Hawaii and will provide updates.
LOUISIANA	<p>The House is considering HB 639 which would increase the sports betting tax rate from 15% to 32.5%.</p> <p>The bill passed out of committee (20-1) two weeks ago, but has been slowed down due to organized opposition (including iDEAs). The bill sponsor is now engaging stakeholders.</p> <p>The bill would need $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the House to proceed.</p>	Week of May 12th: House returns to session.	<p>iDEA has sent a letter to House lawmakers urging them to oppose HB 639.</p> <p>We also published an opinion piece in a publication targeted to state lawmakers making the case to oppose the bill.</p> <p>Both the letter and op-ed can be found on the Member Portal.</p>
MINNESOTA	<p>This week, in the Senate Tax Committee, there was a hearing on SF 2374, the omnibus tax bill. Here is a summary SF2374. In the bill, there is a section about requiring a study on sports betting.</p>	Session Adjourns - 05/19/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Minnesota Legislature.

	<p>This section requires members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over taxes, finance, and human services to consult with representatives from named entities to study, evaluate, provide recommendations, and issue a report on the legalization of sports betting, fantasy sports, or both. The report may include any other information deemed relevant. The report must be submitted to the chairs and ranking members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over taxes, finance, and human services by March 15, 2026.</p> <p>The final version of the omnibus tax bill will be negotiated in a conference committee, which will occur next week.. Time is running short on session in Minnesota as the Legislature is currently scheduled to adjourn on 05/19/25.</p>		
NEBRASKA	<p>The sports wagering constitutional amendment was brought up for a 2nd vote and was filibustered. The sponsor withdrew the bill, effectively ending progress for 2025, but it is still alive for the 2026 session. See Member Portal for more info.</p>	Adjourns: 05/31/25	iDEA will be monitoring legislative activity.
NORTH CAROLINA	<p>NC Senators passed their version of the budget which includes a doubling the sports betting tax rate from 18% to 36%. House lawmakers have not indicated a willingness to include this increase in their version of the budget.</p> <p>The projected increase in revenues would be distributed to NC colleges and universities.</p> <p>The Governor is not a fan of sports betting and likely supports the increase, however, because of other items included in the Senate budget, he has already threatened to veto the bill.</p>	<p>July 1: deadline for budget, however, in most years the legislature does not meet this deadline and often the budget is not finalized until the Fall.</p>	<p>iDEA is working with stakeholders to oppose the tax increases and other bills that would negatively impact the sports wagering market.</p> <p>With the budget already passed in the Senate, we are focusing our attention on House lawmakers and legislative leadership.</p>
NEW YORK	<p>A7962 was introduced in the NY Assembly that would place limits on bets as well as restrictions on advertising, among other things:</p>	Adjourns – 06/13/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the New York Legislature.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cap the daily wagering limit at \$5,000; • Creates a prohibition on certain advertisement practices, including odds boosts or similar offers, advertising that contains the phrases "bonus", "no sweat", "bonus bet", or any other similar term; • Places restrictions on when ads can be run. <p>The bill has been referred to the Assembly's Racing And Wagering Committee.</p>		
OKLAHOMA	<p>The two sports wagering bills died in the Senate on 05/08/25. The lack of tribal consensus on the legislation coupled with the threat of a Governor veto doomed the bills from being passed.</p> <p>Given the acrimonious relationship between the tribes and the Governor, enacting a sports wagering law will be difficult until after a new Governor is elected in Nov. 2026.</p>	Adjourns – May 30th	iDEA will continue to monitor and report on progress in Oklahoma.
TEXAS	<p>The Texas legislature will not consider sports wagering or casino legislation this session. The issue became more unapproachable with concerns raised by the legislature over the state lottery.</p> <p>Currently, the lottery is defunded until state lawmakers act to restore funding. The Lt. Gov has said he is willing to forego the \$2B in tax revenue that the lottery generates annually for the state.</p>	Adjourns: 06/02/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Texas Legislature.
WISCONSIN	<p>The Wisconsin Policy Forum released a report detailing the issues that need to be considered prior to expanding sports betting as well as looking at the possibilities of expanding sports betting in Wisconsin. You can read a copy of the report here.</p>	<p>Session Start: 1/07/25</p> <p>Adjourns; Dec 2025</p>	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Wisconsin legislature.

Regulatory Advocacy

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<p>MARYLAND</p>	<p>The MD Lottery last year proposed a new rule that would eliminate promotional deductions for sports wagering. This was done as a way to generate more revenues from gaming to address state budget deficits.</p> <p>The state AG has weighed in to say that this rule would violate the sports wagering statute and exceed the Lottery's authority.</p>		<p>iDEA has sent a letter to the MLGCA urging them to withdraw the amendment</p> <p>A copy of the iDEA letter and additional information can be found on the Member Portal.</p> <p>Last week we spoke with the MD Lottery and they indicated that there has been no decision made on the promo tax amendment and that they are weighing our input and the input of other stakeholders.</p> <p>On 05/05 we spoke with a state Lottery Commissioner, and shared our concerns about the proposed amendment. He understood our position and promised to relay our concerns as the process unfolds.</p>
<p>MISSOURI</p>	<p>This week the Missouri Gaming Commission announced that they expect the licensing application process to begin on May 15th. Even though the regulations will not be finalized until August 30, they intend to use this time to review applicants and be in a position to issue temporary licenses. The constitutional deadline to launch sports betting is December 1, 2025.</p> <p>A copy of the rules that were submitted can be found here.</p>	<p>March 17 – rules published in register, 30-day comment window open.</p> <p>May 15 – Application process to begin</p> <p>Aug 30 – New effective date of rules</p> <p>Fall 2025 – potential launch.</p>	<p>iDEA will continue to monitor and update</p>