

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 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 2024, iDEA testified in support of iGaming at an informational hearing. That testimony can be seen here.</p>	<p>Session Adjourns – 6/12/25</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 – 4/07/25</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 10 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, of 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>On 5/27 the House Finance Committee held a hearing on HB 298. Please go to the Member Portal for details on the bill. A video of the hearing can be found here. IDEA testified at the hearing</p> <p>On 05/28 the Senate Gaming Committee held its 3rd hearing on their version of the iGaming bill. The testimony was mostly from "opponents." The hearing can be viewed here.</p> <p>Momentum continues to build for this issue, and we expect that House and Senate lawmakers will begin discussing how to craft a solution that is included in the budget.</p> <p>Some land-based entities are seeking to restrict market participation and at least one casino has said they oppose iGaming outright. The Governor has not stated a public position on the current effort, but in the past has not been friendly to the gaming industry.</p>	<p>5/27: House Finance Committee Hearing</p> <p>5/28 or 29: Senate Gaming Committee Hearing</p> <p>6/25: Budget deadline</p> <p>Legislature is year-round</p>	<p>We are actively engaged with lawmakers and other stakeholders in Ohio through our lobbyist and other strong connections to the state.</p> <p>We submitted our recommended alternative proposal, focused on tax rates, license fees and market access on May 30th, per a request from House/Senate lawmakers. The substance of this proposal was discussed at length on the May 30th member call, which is available on the Portal.</p> <p>We have also engaged Eilers & Krejcik to work on analysis so we can inform lawmakers about optimal rates/fees/skins. That should be delivered the week of June 9th.</p>

Legislative Updates: Sports Betting

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
ALASKA	<p>On Friday, 5/16 the Labor and Commerce committee held a hearing on HB 145. The hearing can be viewed here. This was a “check the box” hearing to ensure that the issue would remain alive until next session. So nothing will happen again on HB 145 until 2026.</p> <p>The bill would authorize up to 10 sports wagering licenses and impose a tax rate of 20%.</p>	May 21: first session adjournment	iDEA will monitor developments and will remain in touch with the bill sponsor.
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: 6/04/25	iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Connecticut Legislature.
LOUISIANA	<p>The House passed an amended version of HB 639 which would increase the sports betting tax rate from 15% to 21.5%. A previous version of the bill that passed out of Committee would have increased the tax rate to 32.5%</p> <p>The bill now is in the Senate and the effort will now focus on stopping the bill in the Senate (best case) or ensuring that if the Senate does act, they do not seek to raise it further.</p>	Week of May 12: House returns to session.	<p>iDEA sent a letter to House lawmakers urging them to oppose HB 639. We are evaluating our approach in the Senate.</p> <p>We also published an op-ed in a publication targeted to state lawmakers making the case to oppose the bill. Both the letter and op-ed can be found on the Member Portal.</p>

<p>MINNESOTA</p>	<p>The Minnesota Legislature has adjourned without passing sports betting legislation.</p> <p>A special session of the Legislature will be called. However, the focus of the special session will be to pass the remaining budget bills that weren't passed prior to the Legislature adjourning.</p>	<p>Special Session: TBD</p>	<p>iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the Minnesota Legislature.</p>
<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p>	<p>NC House lawmakers did not include a sports betting tax rate increase in their budget. Earlier this year, the Senate passed their own version of the budget that included doubling the tax rate to 36%.</p> <p>There is still work to do to ensure that a final budget bill that is agreed to by both the House and the Senate will not include an increase.</p>	<p>July 1: Budget deadline; however, typically deadline isn't met; budget often not finalized until the fall.</p>	<p>iDEA has worked with stakeholders to oppose the House including a tax increase in their budget bill.</p> <p>We sent a letter to legislative leaders. Linked here.</p> <p>We published an op-ed in a local NC media outlet to help reinforce our messaging around the tax rate.</p>
<p>NEW YORK</p>	<p>A7962 was introduced in the NY Assembly that would place limits on bets as well as restrictions on advertising, among other things:</p> <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>	<p>Adjourns – 06/13/25</p>	<p>iDEA will continue to monitor the activity of the New York Legislature.</p>
<p>OKLAHOMA</p>	<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</p>	<p>Adjourns – May 30th</p>	<p>iDEA will continue to monitor and report on progress in Oklahoma.</p>

	the Governor, enacting a sports wagering law will be difficult until after a new Governor is elected in Nov. 2026.		
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>Great news in MD. During the 05/22 meeting of the Maryland Lottery the commission announced that they are withdrawing the proposed amendment to the rules that would eliminate promotional deductions for sports wagering.</p> <p>Good win that will help our members with sports wagering operations save \$\$ in face of the tax rate increase that will go into effect.</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, which indicated that no decision has been made on the promo tax amendment and that they are weighing our input and the input of other stakeholders.</p> <p>On 05/14 we had additional follow-up discussion with a state Lottery Commissioner, and shared additional info on why removing the ability to deduct promotions would not yield significant revenue. He understood our position and promised to relay our concerns as the process unfolds.</p>

<p>MISSOURI</p>	<p>The application window for operators, suppliers, and occupational licenses opened on May 15, 2025. All of the applications can be found here.</p> <p>Applications for two untethered licenses are due by July 15 – these will be awarded by August 15th. All others are due by Sept 12th.</p> <p>A copy of the rules that were submitted can be found here.</p>	<p>May 15 – Application process to begin</p> <p>July 15 – Untethered applications due.</p> <p>Aug 15 – Untethered licenses awarded.</p> <p>Aug 30 – New effective date of rules</p> <p>Sept 12: Deadline for all other applicants</p> <p>Dec 1 – launch deadline</p>	<p>IDEA will continue to monitor and update</p>
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