

Legislative Updates: iGaming

State	Current Status	Key Dates	iDEA Engagement / Opportunities
ALBERTA, CAN	<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>Alberta has been undergoing consultation with industry stakeholders and indigenous groups on regulatory structure. You can learn more about the process and how to participate by visiting this link.</p> <p>They're aiming for the market to launch in "early 2026."</p>		iDEA will continue to monitor the developments in Alberta, and will be engaging with the regulator throughout the rulemaking process.
MARYLAND	<p>The Legislature adjourned without addressing iGaming. The budget does include an increase in the sports betting tax rate from 15% to 20%; a compromise from the proposed 30% rate.</p> <p>The state still faces budget issues and lawmakers are discussing coming back later this year for a special session; presenting an opportunity for iGaming to resurface as a budget solution.</p>	Adjourned – 4/07/25	<p>We remain engaged with lawmakers to monitor the possibility of a special session.</p> <p>We attended an event on 06/10 hosted by Senator Ron Watson, who has been a champion for iGaming. We were able to discuss the issue with several lawmakers and political influencers who were in attendance.</p>
MASS	<p>New iGaming legislation was introduced by Rep. Muradian. You can view H4431 here. The bill also includes provisions which would prohibit sweepstakes style casino games.</p> <p>No hearing has been scheduled on the bill.</p> <p>Key aspects of the bills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licenses to the 3 existing licensed casinos; 		<p>We will engage with Rep. Muradian on the bill and to provide support should it advance.</p> <p>iDEA has testified in support of other iGaming bills earlier this year.</p>

	<p>each casino can offer up to 3 "skins" + the licensed casino can offer multiple brands under their license.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15% tax rate • Master license – \$100k fee (5-yr term), renewal fee \$100k • Platform/skin provider license – \$50k fee, 50k renewal • Supplier license – \$15k fee • Live dealer permitted, not required to be hosted in-state if approved under a MISGA compact • No credit card deposits / \$20k daily deposit limit 		
NEW JERSEY	<p>Lawmakers settled on a compromise tax increase for both sports betting and iGaming, raising them both to 19.75%. This tax change will be included in the state budget which is expected to be approved on 06/27/25.</p> <p>More information on the member portal.</p>	June 27: Budget Vote	<p>iDEA has been very active pushing back against the tax increases.</p> <p>Over the past several weeks an op-ed by Jeff Ifrah was published in a prominent state publication; we launched a targeted ad campaign linking to a dedicated landing page on our website; and a direct email campaign to state lawmakers. We heard directly from lawmakers and stakeholders that our messaging had an impact.</p>
NEW YORK	<p>The session has concluded and as expected the iGaming bills did not advance.</p> <p>The legislature did pass a sweepstakes prohibition bill. The bill will be transmitted to the Governor for signature or veto in the coming weeks. Once she has the bill, she has 30 days to act.</p>	Adjourned – 6/13/25	<p>iDEA continues to monitor developments and continues to engage with key lawmakers.</p> <p>We spoke with Senator Addabbo earlier this week and he had not indication whether the governor would sign the sweepstakes bill.</p>
OHIO	House and Senate leaders finalized their budget and it did not include any gaming related items.	Legislature is year-round	We are actively engaged with lawmakers and other stakeholders in Ohio through our lobbyist

	<p>iGaming was not included, neither was VLT expansion, both issues were subject to hearing in the past month.</p> <p>Also notable is that the Governor's effort to increase the sports betting tax rate to 40% was also not included in the budget.</p> <p>iGaming is closed for now, we do expect opportunities to elevate these discussions again later in the session as lawmakers discuss property tax relief.</p>		<p>and other strong connections to the state.</p> <p>On 7/10 more than a dozen iDEA members met with Senator Nathan Manning, the lead sponsor of legislation, at NCLGS.</p> <p>He appreciates iDEA as a resource and has committed to consider our recommendations for a "sub-bill" of his current iGaming bill.</p> <p>He said that there was not a clear pathway towards the bill being considered as a standalone. However, the state is likely going to address property taxes in the Fall and this could be an area where iGaming serves as a pay-for,</p> <p>iDEA is considering a fly-in this Fall to meet with lawmakers.</p>
<p>VIRGINIA</p>	<p>Virginia state lawmakers held an informational hearing on 8/19 to discuss iGaming. The hearing was not tied to a specific bill, but will help set the stage for a legislative discussion when their session begins in Jan 2026.</p> <p>A link to the archive video can be found here.</p> <p>Lawmakers comments tended to be cautious about legalization, but also concerned that illegal online gaming is occurring today without any consumer protections.</p>	<p>Link to live stream</p>	<p>iDEA has shared data, provided by GeoComply, to state lawmakers that illustrates the size and scope of the illegal online gaming market that already exists in VA.</p> <p>We did not be testify at the hearing.</p>

Legislative Updates: Sports Betting

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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 adjourned	iDEA will monitor developments and will remain in touch with the bill sponsor.
GEORGIA	<p>An interim study committee has been meeting on potential gambling expansion in the state.</p> <p>The next meeting is planned for later in August and it will focus on sports betting legalization.</p> <p>The study committee website can be found here.</p>	Aug 25 – Next study committee meeting	iDEA will outreach with the committee and share perspectives about sports wagering legalization at upcoming hearings.
NORTH CAROLINA	<p>State lawmakers continue to work on a long-term budget bill, but have only approved a short term budget stop-gap in the interim. This bill does not include any increases to the sports wagering tax. 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>	July 1: Budget deadline; however, typically deadline isn’t met; often not finalized until the fall.	<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 and published an op-ed in a local NC media outlet to reinforce our messaging re: tax rate.</p>

<p>OHIO</p>	<p>Last week the Governor called on the Ohio Gaming regulator to ban all prop bets on professional sports. See his full statement here.</p> <p>State lawmakers have pushed back on this idea, and ultimately, under the current law only the sports leagues themselves can ask for a suspension of these types of bets. There is no current indication that the leagues intend to ask for this change.</p> <p>We should anticipate that the Gov will push for this change legislatively, if he can't get it done administratively.</p>	<p>Aug 20 – next commission meeting, where this topic could be discussed.</p>	<p>iDEA has publicly pushed back on the Governors proposal. Our thoughts were published in this article.</p> <p>We are conducting outreach to league stakeholders and also to state lawmakers to ensure no momentum behind the Gov's proposal.</p>
<p>WASH D.C.</p>	<p>A provision was included in the DC budget that would clarify the legal status of sports betting in DC, and prohibit lawsuits that seek to exploit an antiquated loss recovery statute.</p> <p>This provision would disqualify a pending lawsuit that seeks to extract hundreds of millions from sports betting operators in DC.</p>	<p>Week of July 28 – DC to vote on budget bill</p>	<p>iDEA sent a letter to the DC Council urging them to include this provision in the budget bill.</p> <p>Jeff spoke with a Washington Post reporter and provided much needed perspective on the situation and explained why this provision was needed. You can read the story here (paywall).</p> <p>You can read the letter here and learn more on the Member Portal.</p>

Regulatory Advocacy

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MARYLAND	<p>The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Commission's proposed rule amendment that would reduce promotional deductions to 5% was published in the Maryland Register.</p> <p>You can view the proposed amendment here.</p> <p>Publication in the Register triggers the start of a 30 day comment window.</p>	<p>Sept. 22 – comment window closes</p>	<p>iDEA has proactively reached out to the Commission to share our concerns with the proposed amendment.</p> <p>They have welcomed a meeting with us, but have suggested that it should take place after the comment window closes.</p>
MISSOURI	<p>The MGC has awarded the state's two untethered licenses to DraftKings and Circa. All other applicants will need to partner with a land-based casino or professional sports franchise.</p> <p>Other licenses will be awarded later this Fall.</p> <p>All of the applications can be found here.</p>	<p>Aug 30 – New effective date of rules</p> <p>Sept 12: Deadline for all other applicants</p> <p>Dec 1 – launch date</p>	<p>iDEA will continue to monitor and update</p>