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Gambling Issues Facing Us in 2020

This year with the constitutional amendment and to statutory bills on the ballot in November we are facing all the problems of expanded gambling that we usually associate with casino gambling plus some things that exacerbate the consequences that will come with expanded gambling.

Sports betting: more addictive, especially among young adults

The constitutional amendment is deceptive: The amendment indicates that the casinos will be located only at horse race tracks (there are now six). However due to the Indian Gaming and Regulation Act, enacted in 1988, allows Indians to operate any forms of gaming that is legal in Nebraska on tribal lands. Thus, this effectively allows expanded gambling in many more locations in Nebraska.

Another way of considering the seriousness of these initiatives: The gambling interests have already spent two million dollars on the petition drive, and more will be spent on the run-up to the election. To the gambling interests this money is all at risk, but they are willing to accept the risk for future profits – which of course is money lost by gamblers.

Other sources of information are on websites:

Nebraska: Gambling with the Good Life

National: Stop Predatory Gambling

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