

## Bills in the News: Gambling

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Searching for bills about gambling online can be a daunting task, as a variety of different types of gambling has been addressed in legislation pending in the 82nd Legislature. Below you can find a list of the different subject terms used for gambling legislation. The broader terms, such as "Amusements, Games, Sports" will yield more results than the narrower terms, such as "EIGHT-LINERS":

Amusements, Games, Sports  
 Crimes--Against Morals  
 BINGO  
 EIGHT-LINERS  
 GAMBLING  
 GREYHOUND RACING  
 HORSE RACING  
 LOTTERIES  
 PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING  
 RAFFLES  
 VIDEO LOTTERY

There is no shortage of speculation about the expansion of gambling in Texas, and a handful of recent news stories explore whether expanded gambling is the right option for Texas:

- "Expanded gambling: Is it worth the payoff?" from the *Longview News-Journal* explores whether more gaming options for Texans would benefit the state.
- "Senators: 'We need' gambling expansion," from the *Amarillo Globe-News* explains that some lawmakers want the Texas voters to decide whether to expand gambling in the state.
- "Bill in Texas Legislature could result in luxury casino at Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie," from the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* discusses pending legislation that would allow casinos at some racetracks in Texas.
- "Neighbors get plenty of Texas gambling cash," from the *Austin American-Statesman* looks into claims that billions of dollars are leaving the state because Texans go to neighboring states to gamble.

Gambling is examined more thoroughly in a number of recent reports and resources:

- *Study of the Current State of Horse and Greyhound Racing in Texas and Industry Recommendations for Improvement*, Texas Racing Commission, January 13, 2011.
- *Report on Commercial Casino Gambling*, Galveston Chamber of Commerce, January 2011.
- *Demographic Survey of Texas Lottery Players 2010*, Texas Lottery Commission, November 2010.
- *Gambling developments in the states, 2010*, National Conference of State

Legislatures, May 12, 2010.

State statutes related to gaming activities, racing, and gambling can be found in the following chapters:

- [Government Code, Chapter 466, State Lottery](#)
- [Occupations Code, Chapter 2001, Bingo](#)
- [Occupations Code, Chapter 2002, Charitable Raffles](#)
- [Penal Code, Chapter 47, Gambling](#)
- [Vernon's Civil Statutes, Article 179e, Texas Racing Act](#)

Some forms of gambling are legal in Texas, and there are state agencies that oversee particular types of gambling. The [Texas Lottery Commission](#) oversees the state lottery and charitable bingo, and the [Texas Racing Commission](#) oversees horse and greyhound racetracks in Texas.

If you need assistance locating bills about gambling, please [contact](#) the Library.