A brief history and overview of gaming in the Midwest: Milestones in expansion of lotteries, casinos and more



1972 ~ Michigan Launches a Lottery

Michigan becomes an early adopter of a state lottery through voter approval of a constitutional amendment. It is the first state in the Midwest to have a state lottery up and running. All other states in the region eventually follow Michigan's lead, with North Dakota being the last to do so in 2003. Its law only allows for participation in multi-state lotteries.



1994 ~ GATES OPEN FOR 'RACINOS'

lowa becomes the first Midwestern state, and one of the first in the U.S., to legalize casino-type gambling inside racetracks. Most recently, **Ohio** authorized "racinos" this year (HB 386). **Indiana** is the other Midwestern state that permits racinos. In August, **ILLINOIS** Gov. Pat Quinn vetoed SB 1849, which would have legalized racinos.



1988 ~ South Dakota Makes First Bet

SOUTH DAKOTA voters approve limited-stake gaming in the historic Old West town of Deadwood. The maximum bet was initially \$5, but William Thompson, a professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and national expert on state gambling laws, says voter approval was a milestone. This year, the South Dakota Legislature raised maximum bets in Deadwood from \$100 to \$1,000.



1996 ~ Casinos Reach Land

During an era in which anti-gambling coalitions are mostly successful, MICHIGAN voters' narrow approval of land-based casinos in Detroit becomes a notable exception — and an important breakthrough. "The argument was, 'Look at the Ambassador Bridge. There is a traffic jam because of all the people going one mile from Detroit to a casino in Windsor," Thompson says.



1988 ~ RISE OF INDIAN GAMING

The federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is signed into law, providing the regulatory framework under which tribal authorities can conduct gambling operations (state consent is required in some instances). Twenty-eight U.S. states now have Indian gaming, including Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.



2007 ~ NEW TYPE OF CASINO OWNER: STATE OF KANSAS KANSAS becomes the sixth Midwestern state to OK casino gambling.

The new law also makes Kansas the first state to own casinos.

According to the American Gaming Association, more than 20
U.S. states now authorize commercial casino gambling, including
ILLINOIS, INDIANA, IOWA, KANSAS, MICHIGAN, OHIO and SOUTH DAKOTA.



1989 ~ IOWA TAKES RIVERBOAT PLUNGE

lowa becomes the first U.S. state to legalize riverboat gaming
— "under the pretense," Thompson says, that "they were not
casinos." Neighboring Illinois follows lowa's lead the next
year. In 1993, Indiana became the third state in the Midwest to
authorize the opening of riverboat casinos.



2012 ~ Illinois in Front on Online Gaming

On March 26, ILLINOIS becomes the first U.S. state to sell lottery tickets over the Internet. Illinois' plans to launch Internet lottery sales also led to a milestone ruling by the U.S. Department of Justice. That decision gives states the go-ahead to authorize many types of online gambling, says professor I. Nelson Rose, a leading international authority on gaming law. Illinois and lowa are often cited as likely early adopters of laws that authorize and/or regulate online poker.



1993 ~ ROUTE FOR VEGAS TO COME TO THE MIDWEST A new Nevada law gives that state's licensed casino operators the

go-ahead to open facilities elsewhere. "The biggest investors, those from Las Vegas, went national," Thompson says. In **Оню**, for example, the gaming industry put money behind a 2009 ballot initiative authorizing casinos. "The casinos promised jobs," Ohio Rep. Louis Blessing says, "and anybody who promised jobs that year was going to win."



2012 ~ MINNESOTA TRANSFORMS CHARITABLE GAMING Lawmakers in MINNESOTA — which has the nation's largest char-

itable gaming industry — pass a bill that will bring electronic pull tabs and linked bingo (players in different locations linked via an electronic device playing the same game) to hundreds of bars, restaurants and other establishments. Nonprofit organizations are licensed to conduct these games. In 2009, ILLINOIS legalized video poker in restaurants and bars (not part of that state's charitable gaming activities).