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from State Representative Daniel Didech

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Didech Files Bill to Block New Local Taxes on Sports Betting

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — State Rep. Daniel Didech (D – Buffalo Grove) today introduced House Bill 4171 to affirm that regulation and oversight of the sports wagering industry remain the sole responsibility of the State of Illinois.

Didech's proposal comes in direct response to the City of Chicago's plan to impose a local sports betting tax and is designed to prevent policies that would harm consumers and undermine consistent statewide oversight.

"When the legislature legalized sports betting in 2019, it was never our intent to allow local governments to create their own rules for this industry," said Rep. Didech, chair of the House Gaming Committee. "Chicago's proposal will hurt consumers, drive vulnerable people to predatory illegal markets, and reduce state tax revenue. The city should work collaboratively with the state to ensure sound, informed policy decisions are made on this issue."

"We can't have different rules for sports betting depending on city boundaries," said Rep. Curtis Tarver (D – Chicago), a co-sponsor and Chair of the House Revenue Committee. "This bill ensures clarity and fairness for everyone involved."

"I support House Bill 4171 to ensure oversight of the sports betting industry remains within the full purview of the state and to stop inadvertently hurting recreational sports bettors," said Rep. Edgar Gonzalez (D – Chicago), a co-sponsor of the bill.

"We need to protect Chicago sports fans from unnecessary taxes and ensure players aren't pushed toward illegal, unregulated markets," said Rep. Angie Guerrero-Cuellar (D – Chicago), a co-sponsor of the bill.

"We need to pass this legislation to protect Chicagoans from another tax and prevent an unmanageable patchwork of local regulations," said Rep. Mike Kelly (D – Chicago), a co-sponsor of the bill.

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