

On May 26, 2021,

The **Legalize Sports Betting on American Indian Lands Initiative** qualified to appear on **the ballot for November 8, 2022.**

[https://ballotpedia.org/California\\_Legalize\\_Sports\\_Betting\\_and\\_Revenue\\_for\\_Homelessness,\\_Housing,\\_and\\_Education\\_Initiative\\_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Legalize_Sports_Betting_and_Revenue_for_Homelessness,_Housing,_and_Education_Initiative_(2022))

The ballot initiative would legalize sports betting in California. The ballot initiative would allow American Indian tribes, **licensed racing associations**, state-licensed gaming establishments, and professional sports team leagues to offer sports betting. These entities would be allowed to offer online or mobile sports wagering.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Golden Gate Fields would be able to offer Sports Betting. (FP Note)**

The ballot initiative would **tax the gross gaming revenue from sports wagering at 25 percent**. Revenue from the tax would be deposited into a Sports Wagering Fund, and then, through legislation, be used to address issues related to homelessness, affordable housing, public education, and mental health. In addition to the 25 percent tax, **a 1 percent tax would be levied in gross gaming revenue to fund problem gambling treatment.**<sup>[1]</sup>

The ballot measure would also legalize blackjack, card games, and tile games at licensed gambling establishments.<sup>[1]</sup>

On May 26, 2021, the **Legalize Sports Betting on American Indian Lands Initiative** qualified to appear on the ballot for November 8, 2022. The tribe-backed ballot initiative would legalize sports betting at American Indian gaming casinos and licensed racetracks; however, other state-licensed gaming establishments and professional sports team leagues would not be permitted to offer sports wagering. **The ballot initiative would enact a tax of 10 percent on profits derived from sports betting at racetracks.** The ballot measure would also legalize roulette and dice games, such as craps, at tribal casinos.

increased state revenues, potentially reaching the mid-hundreds of millions of dollars annually, from sports wagering taxes and payments (such as licensing fees). **Some portion of these revenues would reflect a shift from other existing state and local revenues.** Increased state regulatory costs, potentially reaching the high tens of millions of dollars annually, that would be fully or partially offset by the increased revenue or payments required by gaming agreements between tribes and the state.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/03/30/sports-betting-gambling-casinos-card-rooms-00020319>

Sports wagering advanced with inexorable momentum **after the Supreme Court in 2018 struck down a federal law that had limited such gambling to Nevada.** Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a Republican who had moved to legalize sports betting at horse tracks and Atlantic City casinos, fought in court for years before convincing the justices the 1992 law violated state sovereignty.

**“California is the holy grail of U.S. sports betting markets,”** said Daniel Wallach, a Florida-based attorney who has advised various players in burgeoning sports wagering states.

**“This is going to be a half-a-billion-dollar battle for control of the most lucrative betting market (CALIFORNIA) in the world.”**

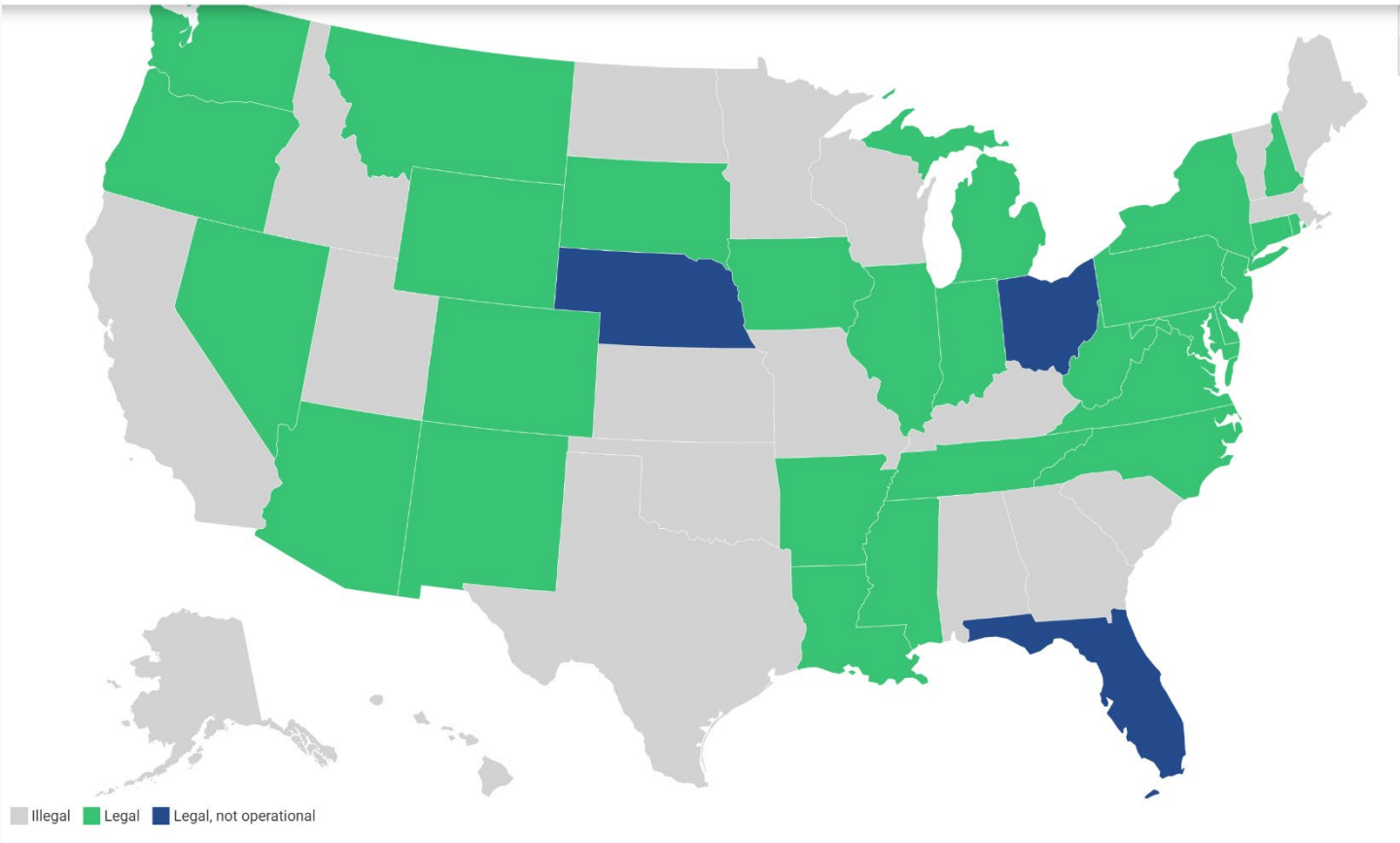
There is **one initiative on the ballot** in November 2022. It is supported by the tribes and would amend the state constitution to allow sports betting at various casinos and racetracks around the state. It **would not allow for mobile** sports betting.

If passed, sports betting at the casinos would be legal on professional and collegiate events. Bets on California college teams would be banned unless they are playing in a tournament.

**DraftKings** and **FanDuel** are behind another **proposed ballot initiative** — this one to legalize online sports betting apps statewide through agreements with tribal casinos and their partners.

**February 23, 2022:**

Californians have mixed opinions when it comes to **sports betting**, as **a new poll** from **the University of California found 45% of voters support the idea, 33% are opposed and 22% remain undecided.**



**This map shows the spread of sports betting in the western US. Is California next? (FP)**

The Legalization of Sports Betting at Golden Gate Fields would dramatically transform the economic activity at the racetrack and provide a long-term sustainable business model at the waterfront. (FP)

Will it change existing activity at Golden Gate Fields? (FP)

Of the millions of dollars in taxes that will be generated for the State of California every year, how much will come to Albany? (FP)

**Can Albany pass a tax on this activity? How can the City of Albany investigate this potential revenue stream before the possible election vote in November 2022? (FP)**

Text compiled by Francesco Papalia, Albany Financial Advisory Committee  
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