

gambling operators could be both positive and negative. For example, there is the possibility that providing consumers with further knowledge and tools about responsible gambling and specifically in respect of their own gambling habits may result in a reduced number of bets being placed online via licensed Australian operators and therefore a loss of revenue for those entities. It may also mean that consumers are driven to use offshore unlicensed operators who are not subject to similar (or any) consumer protection standards. This may ultimately result in consumers being in a more vulnerable situation than if they had bet with a licensed Australian operator.

Alternatively, it may mean that Australians are more likely to use an Australian licensed operator as they can take some comfort in knowing that the operator is required to adhere to strong consumer protection and harm minimisation standards. In this regard, it is understood that gambling operators who adopt responsible gambling measures are generally regarded as more trustworthy.

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2. Ibid.
3. Hon Mitch Fifield, 'Major Reforms to Support Australian Broadcasters' (Media Release, 6 May 2017).
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5. Matthew Doran, Gambling advertising to be banned during live sports (6 May 2017), ABC News, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-05-06/gambling-ads-during-live-sporting-events-to-be-banned/8502524>
6. Above n 1.
7. Sarah-Jane Tasker, Budget 2017: bookmakers back gambling ad restrictions (8 May 2017), The Australian, <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/sport/budget-2017-bookmakers-back-gambling-ad-restrictions/news-story/a3bbeffc54e36c0fb6458b1967484300>
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10. Above n 8.
11. Hon Alan Tudge MP, Ministers agree to tackle major online gambling reform (Media Release, 28 April 2017).
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.

KSA steps up enforcement policy in the Netherlands

The Dutch Gaming Authority ('KSA') announced on 27 May 2017 a change in its enforcement policy, effective as of 1 June 2017. It promises to actively target operators who have a distinct focus on the Dutch market, signalling stricter enforcement.

This 'focus' can be illustrated in a number of ways, with the criteria including the failure by an operator to utilise geoblocking to stop Dutch users from accessing its website, and the use by operators of what might be termed 'Dutch' images, such as windmills, on their websites. The KSA has outlined the criteria but notes that the list is not exhaustive. "The KSA's decision [on enforcement] is seen as highly controversial, since the announcement was at the weekend and only gave operators a few days to comply," said Bas Jongmans, Attorney at Bais Legal. "In summary, the KSA has re-announced its intention to concentrate on operators who target Dutch players. Whether or not a website is targeting Dutch players remains quite ambiguous and it may be questioned if KSA is actually introducing anything new."

"According to the KSA, extended enforcement priorities are necessary to curb the operators that are focusing on the Dutch consumer," explain Roelien van Neck and Lisette den Butter of Bird & Bird LLP. "In conclusion, because the online gambling operators have become more creative with their online gambling offers, the KSA has to be stricter in its enforcement."

Illinois i-gaming Bill's future uncertain despite Senate vote

The Illinois Senate passed on 31 May 2017 a draft Bill that would legalise both daily fantasy sports ('DFS') and online gambling in the State; following the Senate's 42-10 vote in favour of the Bill, the draft legislation will now be considered by the House.

The Bill would limit i-gaming licences to casino and horseracing operators; advance-deposit wagering operators would be eligible for licences provided they have taken \$1 million in bets in Illinois in 2016. In respect of DFS, the Bill follows most DFS regulations that have passed elsewhere in the US, note David O. Klein and Neil Asnen of Klein Moynihan Turco LLP. "By pairing DFS and i-gaming into one bill, the Bill was actually specifically designed to head off complaints about the Bill," explain Klein and Asnen. "Such complaints have historically come from gaming interests that are otherwise opposed to legalisation of DFS because they view it as a direct competitor to their offerings."

Although the current legislature session ended in May, the legislature is now set to reconvene for a special session in late June to tackle the State's budget impasse. Some commentators have raised the possibility that the Bill might be passed to assist with the budget; it is thought that legalised i-gaming could bring in at least \$100 million in its first year. "In theory, the House could take up the Bill in the special session or it may wait until the fall 'veto' session," notes Donna More, Partner at Fox Rothschild LLP. "The Senate is more favourable to gaming legislation in general. It is not as easy a sell in the House. So, I believe it will be a tough road for passage in the House."