



Florida's Gaming Bill—Dead on Arrival!!!

February 6, 2012 (Tallahassee, FL)—The destination resort bill is *close to death* as it was met with a very cool reception in the House Business and Consumer Affairs Subcommittee last week. **The bill's sponsor, Rep. Erik Fresen, decided to withdraw the bill rather than face a potential defeat.**

Before Fresen opted to postpone the vote, Chairman Holder warned him that this would be the last time the committee would meet for 2012 and the last chance for his legislation.

Fresen said, **"Legislation to restrict gaming without the sweeteners of destination casinos weren't likely to get through the Legislature and opponents of gambling weren't being realistic about the state of gambling in Florida, which is home to Seminole casinos, pari-mutuels, a state lottery and internet sweepstakes cafes already."**

The destination resort bill is **still alive in the Senate**, but the chairman of the **House Rules and Calendar Committee** made it clear that **the bill will not see the light of day in the House of Representatives and pronounced it dead.**

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