

111th Congress Summary

The decade-long debate over Internet gaming, punctuated with the passage of two important pieces of I-gaming legislation in 2000 and 2006, continued unabated in the 111th Congress. After horseracing secured enabling legislation for online pari-mutuel wagering under the Interstate Horseracing Act in 2000, Congress then voted to ban the use of credit cards for illegal online betting in 2006 (exempting, of course, legal wagering conducted pursuant to the IHA).

The debate in this Congressional session focused on a possible roll-back of the 2006 ban and an expansion of the market for I-gaming beyond what is permitted under the IHA. As a result of its unique status under the IHA, horseracing played a pivotal role these debates and other legislative efforts during the 111th Congress.

Tax issues impacting horseplayers remained at the forefront as well. NTRA continued efforts to secure a more equitable tax treatment for pari-mutuel winnings and ensure that horseplayers and racetracks are not unfairly impacted by inconsistencies in the tax code.