

**STATEMENT ON GAMBLING**  
**issued by the**  
**COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS**  
**OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO**

State approved gambling keeps increasing in Illinois. As one form of gambling reduces in income, other variations are developed or proposed.

The Council of Religious Leaders is opposed to increasing gambling options in our State. We feel there is a moral issue involved in people being urged to spend increasing amounts of their resources in gambling enterprises.

The method of determining the will of our citizens would be for them to express themselves through a referendum on the expansion of gambling activity. Such an issue as this, so basic to the mood of our State and also its method of financing State services deserves the expressed opinion of our citizens. We urge that any expansion of gambling activity be submitted to the citizens of our State for their view on this.