

The One Issue that Unites All American Voters: Ending the Federal Sports Betting Ban

Americans bet more than an estimated \$15 billion on the Super Bowl and March Madness combined — and an estimated 97 percent of that total was bet illegally. Two facts are clear from this data: Americans love betting on sports and the federal prohibition on sports betting has failed. Results from two national surveys conducted by the Washington Post, in partnership with University of Massachusetts-Lowell, and the American Gaming Association, with Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, show Americans believe it's time to repeal the federal ban and legalize sports betting. This would allow both state and tribal sovereign governments to decide for themselves whether to allow sports betting.



Americans Agree: Legalize Sports Betting

- The Washington Post survey results show a solid majority of Americans (55%) believe it is time to end the federal ban and legalize sports betting. Doing so would empower states and tribal sovereign governments to decide whether to allow sports wagering.
- Majority support for ending the federal sports betting ban spans political party, income, race, education, urban and rural areas and regions of the country.
- Americans who agree on little else agree it is time to end the federal sports betting ban: According to the Washington Post poll, a majority of Republicans (52%), Democrats (57%) and Independents (57%) want to legalize sports betting.



American Voters Believe Ending the Federal Ban Could Help Local Communities

- Nearly 2 in 3 Americans believe legal, regulated sports betting would deliver new tax revenues to local communities and create new jobs.
- Six in ten (57%) Americans agree regulated sports betting would protect consumers.
- Were it legal to bet on sports, roughly 28 million Americans of betting age – the entire population of Texas – would be more likely to do so.



American Sports Fans Want States to Decide

- Nearly three-in-four (72%) avid sports fans favor ending the federal sports betting ban and letting states decide.
- Across every major American sport, a strong majority of fans support ending the ban, including football, baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey, golf and auto racing.
- Even Americans who do not follow sports believe it's time to change the law: 45 percent of non-sports fans want to let states decide.



**Current law has failed.
It has created a massive
illegal market.
No regulatory oversight.
No consumer protections.
Not tax benefits flowing
back to communities.**

**It's time to end the federal
sports betting ban.**