



December 4, 2012

The Honorable Harry M. Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Reid, Mr. Speaker, Senator McConnell, and Representative Pelosi,

A year ago December 23, the Department of Justice issued a weight of law ruling against the Wire Act of 1961 opening the floodgates for states and other entities to pursue unregulated on-line gambling. This unilateral Executive Branch decision by Attorney General Holder violates the clear intent of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act passed by Congress in 2006 and historical bi-partisan interpretation of the Wire Act.

We recognize Congress did not create this problem. Congress, though, does have the power to protect our seniors, our children, and give law enforcement the tools they need to protect the vulnerable from illegal predatory gambling interests. We urge congressional action before the end of this year to restrict the eminent expansion of on-line gambling throughout states, lotteries, and off-shore operators as early as this coming January.

Several states have either passed on-line gambling statutes or are in the process of passing them quickly when many return to work in capitals across the country to take advantage of the Department of Justice ruling. Often, Congress is put in situations where issues that are already problems require solutions. Here is an opportunity to address an impending matter before it becomes a crisis.

Federal restriction of on-line gambling is vital, urgent, and consistent with recent congressional intent. The legislation proposed by Senator Kyl and Senator Reid is a sensible solution and with the divided Congress, it is the only legislative solution that could pass both chambers. It will restore the Wire Act and on-line gambling in the U.S. will be substantially reduced from what is going on today and the race by states to expand internet gambling will be stopped. We hope a bi-partisan group of Members can join together before the end of this year to pass this legislation that addresses our concerns.

Sincerely,

Jim Martin, Chairman
60 Plus Association

Ned Ryun, President
American Majority Action

Matt Smith, President
Catholic Advocate

For more information visit RestrictOnlineGambling.com