First Down: Sports Betting in the States
Music City Center, Nashville
Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Following the Supreme Court decision finding the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act unconstitutional in *Murphy v. NCAA*, are states moving forward with sports betting? The decision to legalize and regulate sports betting now lies with the states, with legal, regulatory and ethical concerns that must be considered. Examine the trends and future of state laws and whether there is a role for a federal framework.

Speaker Biographies

Attorney General Aaron Ford, Nevada

Before being elected Nevada’s Attorney General, Aaron Ford served as the Majority Leader of the Nevada State Senate. He has been the Minority Leader, Assistant Majority Whip, and he has previously served as chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, vice chair of the Senate Committee on Education, and a member of the Judiciary Committee. He was recognized as best Senate Freshman by the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Rookie of the Year by the Reno Gazette Journal, and Senator of the Year by both Help Animals Nevada and the Nevada Conservation League for his work during the 2013 Nevada Legislative session.

AG Ford earned his B.A. from Texas A&M University in Interdisciplinary Studies and then earned his M.A. in International Education from George Washington University. He also earned an M.A. in Educational Administration, as well as his law degree and Ph.D. in Educational Administration from The Ohio State University.

Before practicing law, AG Ford served as a public school math teacher, shaping hundreds of lives. After teaching, he began his career in law. He clerked for the Honorable Denise Page Hood of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and the Honorable Johnnie B. Rawlinson of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He spent many years in private practice as a Partner at Snell & Wilmer, LLP and later as Partner at Eglet Prince in Las Vegas.
Throughout AG Ford's career, he has always made time to give back to his community. Among his many community accolades, he has served on the Clark County Justice of the Peace Selection Committee and has been recognized as a Mountain States' "Super Lawyer" and "Rising Star in Law". AG Ford is also a former Board Member of the I Have a Dream Foundation, Olive Crest of Nevada, and Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada. In addition, he has coached soccer, basketball, and t-ball.

AG Ford married his college sweetheart, Berna Rhodes-Ford, who is also an attorney. Together, they raised four children, Avery, Devin, Aaron II, and Alexander.

Senator Bill Coley, Ohio

Senator Bill Coley is serving his second full term, representing the majority of Butler County as the Senator for the 4th Ohio Senate District. Currently, he is the Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Government Oversight and Reform and serves on several other Senate committees. He is also a member of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee, the Correctional Institution Inspection Committee and served on the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission as well as serving as one of Ohio’s delegates to the Assembly of State Legislatures. Senator Coley’s experience in handling gaming issues led to his election as president of the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States (NCLGS). His experience, coupled with his innovative legislative efforts, has resulted in the senator speaking throughout the nation, and internationally, on legislative issues including elections operations, payment systems, pharmacy benefit management, educational distance learning, sports betting and gaming policy.

Prior to his appointment to the Senate, Senator Coley was elected to four terms in the Ohio House of Representatives where his background in finance matters led him to be named Chairman of the House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development Committee. While in the Ohio House, Coley championed changes to a DNA testing bill that protected the rights of the accused without local law enforcement incurring “astronomical costs”.

In addition to his legislative duties, Senator Coley works as a commercial litigation attorney with the firm Strauss Troy, is AV Preeminent rated, and is licensed to practice law in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. An active member of his community, Coley is involved in the Butler County Republican Party, St. John's Catholic Church, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Sons of the American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America.

Coley's innovative legislative efforts have garnered him many awards. He has been named legislator of the year by the Foundation for Government Accountability (FGA), the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, and the American Kennel Club. The Senator has also received distinguished legislator recognition by numerous organizations including the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) where he serves as state chairman, the American Conservative Union, the Ohio Farm Bureau and he has been named a Watchdog of the Treasury by the United Conservatives of Ohio.

Coley received his bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Dayton and his law degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. An instrument rated pilot, he and his wife Carolyn live in Liberty Township, Ohio.
Assemblywoman Carol Murphy, New Jersey

Carol Murphy is serving in her first term as State Assemblywoman representing the Seventh Legislative District comprising parts of Burlington County. Elected in 2017, Carol became the first woman in twenty years to represent the Seventh Legislative District in the state assembly and is the first Democrat from Mount Laurel to ever serve in the state legislature.

Carol is the proud daughter of a Bronze Star US Army Veteran, having learned the importance of public service from an early age and has dedicated her life to making a difference. As a young adult, Carol volunteered to renovate, upgrade and build parks to give children a safe place to play. As her passion for service grew, Carol went to work in state government where she increased transparency, helped build public schools across New Jersey, worked on public policy to ensure pay equity, fought for economic opportunity, access to healthcare, reduce gun violence, provide affordable prescription drugs for seniors, stood up for LGBTQ rights, and reduce our property tax burden. Carol was especially proud to work with lawmakers and former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords to pass a law that removes domestic violence abusers’ access to firearms.

As State Assemblywoman, Carol Murphy has already begun to make a difference in her first term. She has fought for new laws to reduce gun violence, historic school funding reforms, and was named Legislator of the Year by Bayada Home Health Care for spearheading a new law providing parking placards for home healthcare workers. Carol has authored legislation that she is championing to overhaul flawed state government sexual harassment policies to protect victim’s rights, requiring improved government transparency with video recording of meetings and enhanced communications, shining a light on school district spending by placing all financial transaction online in form of a simple check register, and reducing the speed limit to 25 miles an hour on Route 130 in Burlington City’s school zone after the tragic death on Antwan Timbers.

Carol Murphy brings a fresh perspective to the State Capitol because she knows the struggles facing families, she has lived paycheck to paycheck, paid her own way to become the first in her family to graduate college and has faced the crushing burden of student loan debt that is an enormous obstacle for young adults. Carol has also faced the challenges of being a caregiver in her own family, losing her father to Agent Orange exposure, her mother to an awful struggle battling Alzheimer’s and recently, her sister to Lupus. Times have not always been easy for Carol, and she brings those experiences to work as State Assemblywoman.

Carol Murphy has quickly become a leader in the General Assembly as she serves as Vice-Chairwoman of the Judiciary Committee, and a member of both, the State Budget and Financial Institutions committees.

Carol Murphy is on the Board of Directors of the Alice Paul Institute, serves as a New Jersey State Director for the National Foundation of Women Legislators, continues as an active member of the Girl Scouts Trefoil Society and is the founder of Maria’s Women United, a South Jersey organization for Democratic women. Carol and her husband Michael live in the Rancocas Pointe section of Mount Laurel.

Delegate Shawn Fluharty, West Virginia
Delgate Fluharty graduated from the West Virginia University School of Journalism in 2006 and followed that up by attending the West Virginia University College of Law, graduating with his law degree in 2009. He is a member of the West Virginia Bar Association, the West Virginia Association for Justice, and was named one of the West Virginia State Journal Generation Next Top 40 Under 40. He was first elected to the House in 2014.

**Representative Brandt Iden, Michigan**

State Representative Brandt Iden was first elected to serve the 61st District in the Michigan House of Representatives in November 2014. The 61st encompasses the city of Portage as well as the townships of Oshtemo, Prairie Ronde, Schoolcraft and Texas. Rep. Iden will chair the newly created House Ways and Means Committee for the 2019-20 legislative term.

Iden is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with degrees in Political Science & Economics, and he became a partner in Baron Builders Inc., a real estate development company shortly after he finished college. Utilizing his real estate experience and the knowledge gained from his time at Baron Builders, Iden began a new venture and is currently the president of Identity Management & Consulting Inc., Real Estate Management Company.

Rep. Iden is a former Kalamazoo County Commissioner, having served in this position for two terms before his election to the House of Representatives. He has served on the boards of Junior Achievement of Southwest Michigan, a nonprofit organization that gives K-12 students skills for career readiness and financial literacy, as well as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Kalamazoo. Iden was born and raised in Southwest Michigan. He’s an avid outdoorsman and enjoys many of the great outdoor resources the state of Michigan offers, including skiing, hunting and fishing.

**Senator Jon Ford, Indiana**

Indiana State. Sen. Jon Ford has represented Hoosiers in western Indiana at the Statehouse since he was elected in 2014. As a state senator, Ford represents Senate District 38, which includes all of Vigo County and the northern part of Clay County. He serves as a member of the Senate Committees on Appropriations; Elections; Family and Child Services; and Public Policy; and he has also served as chairman of the Indiana Arts Commission.

Professionally, Sen. Ford is the vice president of business development at a nationwide independent food service management company. He served as co-owner and president of All State Manufacturing for 17 years, and is a former board member of the Indiana Manufacturers Association. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Misericordia University in business administration and marketing. Ford and his wife, Kirsten, reside in Terre Haute with their two sons.

**Representative Robert Matzie, Pennsylvania**

Rep. Matzie is a lifelong resident of Ambridge and a graduate of Ambridge Area High School. He received an associate degree in high technology communications from the Community College of Beaver County and a bachelor's degree in journalism and communications from Point Park University.
Prior to his election to the House in 2008, Matzie worked as a state Senate staff member for 14 years, served as mayor of Ambridge and was elected to the Democratic State Committee to represent Beaver County.

Rep. Matzie anticipated the U.S. Supreme Court’s positive ruling on the legality of sports wagering to be conducted by the states. His H.B. 519, which authorized sports wagering at Pennsylvania’s casinos, was enacted as part of Act 42. In a little over four months, with only a handful of facilities up and running, sports wagering has brought in more than $4 million in revenues to the state’s General Fund and over a quarter-million dollars to local municipalities.

During his tenure in the legislature, Matzie has served on House committees such as Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Gaming Oversight, Health, Local Government, Policy, Tourism and Recreational Development, Insurance, and Transportation. In January 2019, he was named the Democratic chairman of the powerful House Consumer Affairs Committee. The committee has legislative oversight over all utilities in the commonwealth, as well as large areas of energy production and transportation services.

Matzie and his wife, Patty, have a school-age daughter, Claire. Matzie is the son of Andrew (Jr.) and Catherine (Kay) Matzie of Ambridge and has two brothers: David, of Rochester and Michael, of Ambridge.