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Neighborly Issuer Brief: What the Supreme Court Ruling on Sports Betting Means for Credit.

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Supreme Court OKs Legal Sports Betting: What Does it Mean for State Credit?

The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that eliminated a 25-year ban on legal sports gambling in all but four states is a case study on state credit.

Different stakeholders have wondered whether the legalization of sports betting would produce some kind of windfall for state revenues through taxation of those activities. If we were to bet, we would take the under on that play from a state credit point of view, with a number of factors to support such a wager.

Not every state has current plans to implement sports betting. Only Connecticut, Pennsylvania and 16 other states have stated an interest in legalizing sports betting. So while there has been support for the concept, it is far from clear how large the amount of revenues from would be from the taxes collected on those activities and whether they would be captured at all.

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