



# COUNTY OF ERIE

## OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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**Kathy Dahlkemper**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Contact: Kristin Bowers**  
[kbowers@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:kbowers@eriecountypa.gov)  
**814-451-7440**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **County Executive to testify before Gaming Oversight Committee**

Erie, PA – Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper will testify before the state Gaming Oversight Committee in Harrisburg about how the loss of gaming funds will impact Erie County.

The County Executive will address the committee Tuesday morning. She will be joined by Summit Township Supervisor Nancy Agostine, who also will address the panel.

The testimony comes after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling in late September that struck down the "local share assessment" provision of the state gaming law, which requires casinos to pay a portion of gross revenues to their host communities.

Dahlkemper will urge committee members to work with legislative colleagues and party leaders to use the 120-day window granted by the court to revise the local share provision so that host counties and municipalities can continue to reinvest gaming funds into their communities.

"Though inequities in the gaming law must be addressed, it is vital to Erie County and other host communities that the spirit of the original law be maintained – keeping local funds local," Dahlkemper said. She added that she is grateful for the support of Erie County's legislative delegation, and she further encouraged Erie County residents to lobby state legislators and encourage them to fix the law.

Erie County, as the host county of Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township, has received approximately \$11 million annually in gaming funds. Half of that is used for county needs like debt service payments; support for the Erie County Public Library; and contributions to other local agencies, including GECAC. The remaining \$5.5 million of the county's gaming funds is distributed by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, which invests in initiatives like Ignite Erie, Tech After Hours, and various arts and culture organizations.

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