



October 10, 2026

Mr. Mitchell Glieber, President
State Fair of Texas
3921 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75210

Re: Taking Immediate Action to End DraftKings Sponsorship of the State Fair of Texas

Dear Mr. Glieber:

On behalf of the national and Texas-based organizations we represent, we are urging you to immediately end the State Fair of Texas's sponsorship relationship with DraftKings, an online gambling company that has made national headlines for its dangerous and manipulative business practices and is presently the subject of major class action lawsuits for its misconduct across the nation.¹

Your recent announcement that DraftKings would sponsor free parking for fair attendees raises a fundamental question: Why would a beloved Texas institution help a predatory gambling company build its brand and normalize its business among families and children?²

By allowing a predatory gambling operator like DraftKings to market itself to fairgoers through a promotion for free parking, the State Fair is lending its trusted name and family-friendly reputation to a scheme that is inflicting life-changing harm upon the American people, especially young adults and teens.

The State Fair of Texas is one of our nation's great civic traditions. For generations, it has brought Texans together to celebrate their state's agricultural heritage, educational achievements, culture, and community spirit. According to the Fair's own mission statement, it exists to promote "agriculture, education, and community involvement through quality entertainment in a family-friendly environment." That mission carries

¹ "How DraftKings Uses A.I. to Target the Gamblers Likeliest to Lose," *The New York Times*, September 19, 2026 <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/19/business/draftkings-ai.html?searchResultPosition=1>

² "DraftKings Sponsors 'Historic Free Parking' At Texas State Fair," *Gambling Harm*, October 9, 2026 https://gamblingharm.org/draftkings-sponsors-parking-texas-state-fair-2026/?jetpack_skip_subscription_popup

with it a responsibility to protect the public trust, particularly the trust of parents who bring their children to the Fair.

In addition to immediately terminating the State Fair's sponsorship relationship with DraftKings, we also urge you to adopt a clear policy against sponsorships and promotional partnerships with companies that market addictive gambling products and reaffirm publicly that the State Fair's first responsibility is to the well-being of the Texans and families it serves.

If you need further information, I invite you and your staff to please contact us by email mail@stoppredatorygambling.org or phone (202) 567-6996.

Thank you for your attention to this serious issue. We look forward to your response and to seeing the State Fair reaffirm its commitment to the health, safety, and well-being of Texas families.

Sincerely,

Les Bernal
National Director
Stop Predatory Gambling

Andrew McVeigh
President
Texans for Fiscal Responsibility

Russ Coleman
Chairman
Texans Against Gambling

Jonathan Covey
Director of Policy
Texas Values

Cindi Castilla
President
Texas Eagle Forum

About Stop Predatory Gambling

Stop Predatory Gambling believes people are worth more than money. We are a national nonprofit organization with members of all political stripes in all 50 states whose mission is to reveal the truth behind commercialized gambling to advocate for those who have suffered harm, to prevent more victims, and to champion policy reforms that stop *predatory* gambling. We do not accept financial contributions from commercialized gambling interests.

Screenshots of the State Fair of Texas's "Free Parking" Promotion in Partnership With DraftKings, October 8, 2026



State Fair of Texas ✓
@StateFairOfTX



Get ready for game day weekend with FREE parking at the Fair! 🏈🚗🎉

This Friday, October 9, our friends at @DKSports are picking up the parking tab at official State Fair of Texas parking lots, saving you \$25 before a big weekend at the Fair begins! 🎉👏

Parking is first-come, first-served while spaces last, so arrive early and kick off your weekend with us!



1:00 PM · Oct 8, 2026 · 1,804 Views



State Fair of Texas  @StateFairOfTX · Oct 8

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Replying to @StateFairOfTX and @DKSports