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Racinos on the cards for Ohio

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By **Simon Liddle**

As Ohio continues to draw up legislation for the legalisation of racinos, one expert has suggested that VLTs may no longer be as lucrative a proposition as before.

Michael Zatezalo of Kegler Brown Hill and Ritter told InterGaming that the vote in favour of building four new casinos in the city will now pave the way for the legalisation of VLTs at racetracks.

"The racino legislation has been stayed by the Ohio Supreme Court as a result of a lawsuit brought by LetOhioVote.org," he explained. "The plaintiffs have until this Sunday to gather the required number of signatures to place a referendum on the ballot in November 2010 where the voters of Ohio will have a vote on whether to allow the legislation to take effect. The plaintiffs have indicated that they have the required number of signatures.

"I believe the Ohio voters having approved casinos would likely approve the referendum allowing VLTs at the tracks, but now that casino gaming is legal in four cities, it will not be as lucrative for the tracks."