

WASHINGTON- Virtual casinos are setup by criminals to operate beyond the reach of U.S. law or state laws from offshore or foreign locations. The people who create these sites do it for one reason and one reason only -- money.

"Take the financial incentives away and it stops.

H.R. 2143

will help put an end to illegal Internet gambling in the United States by prohibiting the use of any bank instrument – such as a credit card, check or electronic funds transfer – for Internet gambling.

For all practical purposes, that will put an end to illegal Internet gambling in the United States", explained Bachus.

The negative effects of gambling have been widely documented. All too often,

gambling results in addiction, bankruptcy, divorce, crime and moral decline.

Internet gambling magnifies the destructiveness of gambling by bringing the casino into your home. One student reportedly lost \$10,000 on Internet sports gambling over a three-month period.

"I want to thank the members of Congress for their strong support of H.R. 2143 and their undying determination to put an end to Internet gambling in the United States", Congressman Bachus said. "H.R. 2143 will help stop the growing threat that Internet gambling poses to the most vulnerable in our society, kids and

problem gamblers."

