

Stand Up For California!
“Citizens making a difference”

www.standupca.org

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July 15, 2011

Jay Schenirer, Chair
And Honorable member of the
Law and Legislation Committee
City of Sacramento
915 I Street
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2671

RE: February 1, 2011 Discussion Paper: Card room ownership options

Dear Chairman Schenirer and Honorable members:

In reviewing the Discussion Paper dated February 1, 2011, provided to your committee by Mr. Brad Wasson, Revenue Manager and approved by Leyne Milstein, Director of Finance I noted the broad citation of the categorical exemptions for environmental considerations.

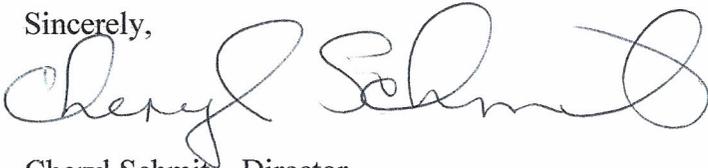
The report states: “Environmental Considerations: Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, continuing administrative activities do not constitute a “project” as defined in Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines and are therefore exempt from review.”

While the specific Cardroom regulation for review and amending on this agenda restricts a person’s association with more than one card room the additional areas of concern in Chapter 5.32 that are highlighted in the “Background” section of this report do not appear to be covered by a categorical exemption of CEQA.

Clearly, amending the gambling ordinance to allow for the combining of card rooms permitting up to 36 tables in one location will have a potentially significant impact on the human environment. The combining of two card room licensees in one location creates an unusual circumstance where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment. A reasonable possibility of a significant impact on the surrounding environmental area is evidenced in the February report under “Description/Analysis”: “The restriction limits the Cardroom operators’ ability to be competitive with surrounding jurisdictions.” Competing with surrounding jurisdictions implies a significant project.

Therefore, *Stand Up For California* is requesting clarity. Which specific categorical exemption(s) for amending the city gambling ordinance is being applied and to which amendments?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Schmit". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cheryl" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Schmit".

Cheryl Schmit – Director

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