



Stand Up For California!

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Cheryl Schmit, Co-Director
Patty Neifer, Co-Director

July 23, 2001

Honorable John Burton
President Pro tempore
State Capitol Room 205
Sacramento, CA. 95814
FAX: 445-4722

RE: Support Confirmation of California Gambling Control Commission Appointees

Dear Senator Burton:

Stand Up For California is the preeminent organization in California addressing the concerns of communities and local government that have been negatively impacted by gaming interests. Stand Up For California is enthusiastically urging your ratification of Governor Davis's appointees to the California Gambling Control Commission.

Commissioners John Hensley, Arlo Smith, Mike Palmer and J.K. Sasaki have demonstrated their efforts to comply with California's gambling laws that were established in Senate Bill 8 in 1997 authored by State Senator Bill Lockyer. This bill established the "Gambling Control Commission". Additionally the Commissioners continue to seek consensus with California gaming tribes and the Division of Gambling Control to eliminate problematic regulatory language in the tribal state compact. It has been and is the duty of the California Gambling Control Commission to monitor gambling and provide guidance in the development of gaming policy in California.

This is a new Commission that has had to work with limited funding, limited staff, limited office space, and resolve complex issues of jurisdiction that were not clearly established in the originating legislation. These newly appointed Commissioners are facing the adversity of a legal challenge to tribal gaming law they had no voice in developing. Moreover, these appointees have persevered and diligently perused their duties.

Stand Up For California supports ratification of these fair and high-minded Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Schmit
Co Director

CC: Senate Rules Committee