Stand Up For California!

"Citizens making a difference"
standupca.org

P.O. Box 355
Penryn, CA 95663

June 23, 2006

The Honorable Leland Yee, PH.D
California State Assembly Member
State Capitol Room 3173
Sacramento, CA. 95814
Fax: 916-319-2112

RE: Oppose AB 2409

Dear Assembly Member Yee:

Stand Up For California is a statewide organization with a focus on gambling issues affecting California, including tribal gaming, card clubs, horseracing and the state lottery. We have been involved in the ongoing debate of issues raised by California's vested gaming interests and its impacts for nearly a decade. Since 1996, we have assisted individuals, community groups, elected officials, and members of law enforcement, local public entities and the State of California as respects to gaming impacts. We are recognized and act as a resource of information to local, state and federal policy makers.

This legislation is an attempt to statutorily legalize the use of slot machines at California racetracks. The California Constitution prohibits casinos and the ability of the state legislature to authorize casinos. Slot machines are synonymous with casinos. (Article 4 Sec. 19 (b))

In examining gaming technology, the critical element that triggers a determination of a machines class is the "element of chance" that determines whether a player has won or lost. The device described in this legislation mimics a slot machine while it replicates a historic horserace in an electronic or electromechanical form. Authorization of this gaming device is not within the legislative authority of the State Legislature. (Article 4 Sec. 19 (e))

Stand Up For California respectfully requests that the State Legislature honor the will of the voters. In 2004, Proposition 68 was introduced by California Racetracks which would have permitted slot machines in urban areas of the State. The voters of California soundly rejected the notion of slot machines in urban areas by an overwhelming 85%.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Schmit – Director
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