



April 5, 2012

Senate President Pro Tem
Darrell Steinberg
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Rod Wright
State Capitol, Room 5064
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1463 – Internet Gambling

Dear Senators Steinberg and Wright,

Thank you for meeting with us a couple of weeks ago. As a follow up to our conversations, I am writing to formally register our fundamental concerns with SB 1463.

We believe that working to perfect legislation that authorizes poker only in an appropriate, technologically feasible, and financially sound manner will be a legislative challenge this session.

On this point, we believe that any proposals to permit any additional games must require subsequent statutory authorization.

In addition, we believe that only those who are currently allowed to offer poker in California should be allowed to extend that ability to the internet.

While these two points are of core importance to Barona, I also want to briefly register our concerns with other elements of the measure, including:

- Lack of ability to maintain sovereignty and self-regulation in the same manner as currently authorized in tribal-state compacts;

- Up front licensing fees that are excessive, subject to forfeiture, and serve to limit competition;
Technical concerns pertaining to limitation on operations.

Again, I appreciate the recent opportunity to express these concerns to you directly and urge you to carefully consider how, and if, you proceed with respect to this measure. I believe that as you consider any next steps with respect to internet gaming, such conversations are important to positive outcomes, whether it is this year or next.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Romero", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Edwin "Thorpe" Romero
Chairman, Barona Band of Mission Indians