## SINGLEY HILL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

April 12, 2011

Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senator Attn: Devin Rhinerson Senate Hart Building 331 Washington, D.C. 20510 FAX: (202) 228-3841

**RE: SUPPORT FOR "Tribal Gaming Eligibility Act"** 

Dear Senator Feinstein,

We whole heartedly support your legislation and hope you are able to protect California communities from the negative impacts of *reservation* shopping that we have experienced.

Singley Hills Homeowners Association has been active since 1993 when the Bear Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria began a development on after-acquired trust land. At that time, our community's participation was to seek environmental mitigations for the proposed housing paid for by Housing and Urban Development Grants specified as homes for needy Indians. To everyone's dismay, in addition to the homes, the Tribe poured a cerement foundation for a tent casino. Tribal gaming as you know did not become legal until March 7, 2000 in California.

Our Association recognizes that this long-sought-after legislation is toolate to protect our community. Nevertheless, had the determination for eligibility for gaming been made as a first step with the listed criteria as your legislation promotes our Association would have been spared.

Requiring the determination of eligibility of tribal lands for gaming by the Secretary of the Interior will establish a transparent process based on objective standards. Moreover, a process in which communities can participate. Members of our Association can tell you first-hand that your legislation is greatly needed to rein in the abuse of Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act by out-of-state development and gaming investors.

We appreciate the hard work of your staff and your commitment to restore the delicate balance of authority between tribes, the state and federal government.

Sincerely,

Jim Mc Vicker