



Stand Up For California!

"Citizens making a difference"

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PROPOSITION 1A CHALLENGE

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Sacramento County, CA —Stand Up For California's decision to file an amicus brief in support of the Proposition 1A challenge is a call for clarity in the development of a state law that has led to the expansion of casino gambling all over the State. As a community based citizens' group, Stand Up For California has aggressively voiced the concerns of citizens in the administrative and legislative processes that are available in this ongoing debate over the development of federally sanctioned tribal gaming enterprises. **"Because there are legitimate conflicts that have arisen with the passage of this proposition it is necessary to follow through the judicial process", said Cheryl Schmit, Co-Director Stand Up For California.** Stand Up for California believes that litigation is important in some instances such as interpreting or clarifying statutes.

"In this case, it is important for the clarification of the law. It is important to answer the question of whether or not a state has the jurisdiction or authority to make laws that apply only on federally held "Indian lands," stated Schmit. "Further, the confusion over whether or not Proposition 29, the Pala Compact becomes the rule of law should Proposition 1A fail, must be cleaned up", Schmit added.

The clarification of this law is necessary in reaching practical solutions to the problems affecting the quality of life of non-Indian citizens and local governments who are experiencing the greatest harm from the passage of Proposition 1A. Tribes continue to create new Indian lands and use them for gaming without regard to their impact on neighboring communities. Evidence of negative impacts can be seen throughout the state, particularly in areas related to local government's ability to plan for, regulate and mitigate the environmental impacts associated with California's widespread casino expansion.

California currently has 108 culturally and geographically unique tribal governments, 46 have operational casinos 3 more are in building phases, 62 have compacts and ten more are seeking compacts. 54 Indian groups are currently listed as petitioning for federal recognition many to promote a casino.

Clarification of Proposition 1A is a necessary first step allowing us to work towards the development of a fair and balanced tribal state compact which can be achieved when the compact is re-examined in March of 2003.

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