

The Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California

May 17, 2012

The Honorable Roderick Wright
Chairman, Senate Committee on Governmental Organization
5064 State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
President Pro-Tempore, California State Senate
205 State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Andrew Freeman
Chairperson

David Swearinger
Vice Chairperson

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Treasurer

Geraldine Freeman
Secretary

Allen Freeman
Member at Large

RE: SB 1463 (Wright and Steinberg) Internet Gambling – OPPOSE

Dear Senators:


The Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians (Paskenta) is opposed to SB 1463, a measure that would authorize intrastate internet gaming in California.

The Paskenta Band believes that the passage of SB 1463, as written, would violate state and federal Indian laws; undermine the premises upon which agreements among state, local, and tribal governments were made; and result in an overall loss of hundreds of millions of dollars to the state each year.

We are not opposed to the authorization of online gaming. We believe that online gaming has the potential to benefit the state, local communities and enhance tribal economies. However, for or this to occur, the legislation must be methodically crafted, fair, in the best interests of the state and gaming tribes, and contain stringent safeguards to protect the integrity of gaming as a whole.

Unfortunately, the current language of the bill will not achieve the desired benefits. Instead, the legislation may create a substandard regulatory regime, allow hundreds of millions of dollars in online gaming revenues to legally leave the state, and cost the State of California hundreds of millions of dollars in lost revenue sharing from tribal governments.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Paskenta's lobbyist David Quintana, if you have any questions or comments in this regard.

Respectfully,

Andrew Freeman
Tribal Chairman
Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians

