



February 19, 2009

U. S. Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Attn: Dan Wessel  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject SB-20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

We appreciate your diligent work in producing and sponsoring legislation that requires newly acquired lands for gaming to process through a two-part determination. California has become inundated with tribal casinos. Off-reservation casinos and casinos at large have become a burden to law enforcement and a hazard to the safety of neighbors and non-tribal members who frequent these casinos.

While this legislation is specific to the Lytton Band in your area, we in Dehesa Valley are certainly aware of the implications of off-reservation casinos. The Sycuan Band (San Diego County) runs one of the most profitable casinos in California, when they applied for an "amended compact" it included a second casino on newly acquired land (not in trust). After being signed by the Governor and voted upon by citizens of California, Sycuan decided not to sign the compact. A second casino would have devastated our rural community, which is already impacted by a major casino. Someone needs to speak up and legislation needs to be adopted that protects not only the sovereign nation but the hard working tax paying citizens of our nation. We applaud you for taking the first step and support your efforts.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Riggs*  
Patricia Riggs, President