Stand Up For California! "Citizens making a difference"

www.standupca.org

P. O. Box 355 Penryn, CA. 95663

April 21, 2017

Honorable Andy Vidak California State Senator State Capitol Room 3082 Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE: Senate Bill 666 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Vidak,

Stand Up For California is a nonprofit public benefit corporation that acts as a statewide community watchdog focusing on gambling issues affecting the State. Our organization appreciates your willingness to introduce Senate Bill 666, formerly Senate Bill 692 the "consulting ban" legislation.

In 2015-16, the Accusation against the State's former Director of Gambling Control brought to the attention of the public the serious need for this legislation. Multiple news stories over several weeks exposed the improper actions of the former Chief of the Bureau of Gambling Control and raised additional concerns that spread into the integrity of decision making at the California Gambling Control Commission.

State regulators are tasked with the responsibility to ensure those that they regulate demonstrate a high level of character, honesty and integrity. These same standards must apply to the regulatory entities themselves. Regulators must live by a required code of ethics to protect the integrity of their decision making. Otherwise, regulators give the appearance and perception of accommodating the industry.

Senate Bill 666 will eliminate the potential of former officials having access and passing on proprietary information or confidential information in ongoing investigations that may benefit their new clients. Most importantly, Senate Bill 666 has met the Governor's veto letter concerns targeting only California Department of Justice and Commission employees and or officials that have responsibilities related to gambling actives. Senate Bill 666 is necessary legislation that will protect the public and help to ensure the integrity of regulators and the State's gaming industry.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Schmit, Director

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