

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504
<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

October 21, 2004

Mr. Michael W. Walters
341 Arroyo Seco Drive
Hollister, California 95023

Dear Mr. Walters:

I am writing in response to your letter regarding Native American gaming. Your correspondence is important to me, and I welcome this opportunity to reply.

It is essential that the concerns of local communities regarding proposed gaming operations be heard and addressed. Let me assure you that I am deeply concerned about the proliferation of off-reservation gaming and the increasing attempts by out-of-State gaming interests to place gambling casinos near urban areas in California. I am also concerned about the ways in which casinos can impact traffic congestion, the environment, and water rights.

Increasingly, tribes are looking for properties not on reservations, but off-reservation, close to cities, tourist areas, or other popular venues. Today, there are over two dozen potential off-reservation casinos that are being contemplated by California tribes. This presents serious problems for local governments, because the local government has limited control over zoning, police, fire, roads, and other local ordinances.

I will continue to do what I can at the Federal level to monitor Native American gaming, and I encourage you to also contact California's State Government, which has direct jurisdiction over gaming in California. Contact information for the Governor and the California Gambling Control Commission is as follows:

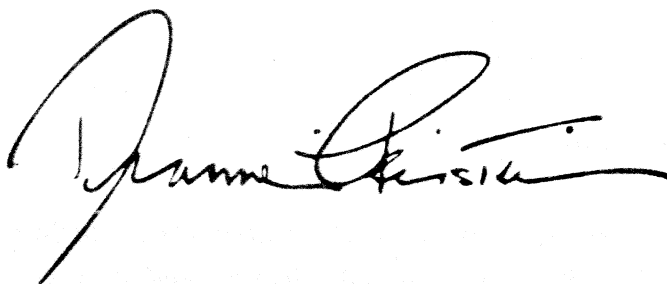
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-2841
www.governor.ca.gov

California Gambling Control Commission
2399 Gateway Oaks Drive
Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 263-0700

www.cgcc.ca.gov

Thank you for taking the time to share your views with me. If you have further questions, or if I can be of further assistance to you, please feel free to call my office in Washington, D.C. at (202) 224-3841.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Further information about my position on issues of concern to California and the Nation are available at my web site <http://feinstein.senate.gov>. You can also receive electronic e-mail updates by subscribing to my e-mail list at <http://feinstein.senate.gov/issue.html>.

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