

RESOLUTION NO. 13-010

RESOLUTION REQUESTING CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR BROWN TO DENY A CLASS III GAMING COMPACT WITH THE ENTERPRISE RANCHERIA

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Colusa County is the elected governing body of the County of Colusa, and thus is the general purpose unit of government most immediately responsible for protecting the health, safety and welfare of persons within Colusa County's unincorporated territory; and,

WHEREAS, Colusa County is primarily rural, with a property tax base that is limited by federal government ownership of large tracts of land and relatively infrequent sales of the agricultural lands that comprise much of the County's private landholdings; and,

WHEREAS, Colusa County's sales tax revenues are limited by its low population density and lack of large retail shopping centers and similar generators of sales taxes; and,

WHEREAS, employment opportunities for Colusa County's residents are limited by the seasonal and/or highly-mechanized nature of Colusa County's agriculture and the relatively small number of non-agricultural employers; and,

WHEREAS, before the Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community ("Tribe") established its gaming enterprise, the Colusa Indian Reservation was a pocket of extreme poverty and a frequent source of problems for Colusa County's law enforcement and other agencies, with the result that relations between the Tribe and the County often were strained; and,

WHEREAS, since the Tribe and the State of California entered into a Class III gaming compact and the People of California approved Proposition 1A in 2000, the Tribe has made major investments in a casino and hotel on its existing Reservation lands (creating construction jobs in the process), as a result of which the Tribe has become an important contributor to the overall economic health, safety and welfare of Colusa County by, among other things: providing hundreds of good jobs at its Colusa Casino & Resort, in its government departments and in its agricultural operations; increasing the County's tax base by purchasing, working and paying property taxes on farmlands that it owns in fee simple; eliminating its members' need for public assistance; paying millions of dollars into, and sponsoring grants from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund to the County of Colusa, the City of Colusa and various special districts within Colusa County; operating a health clinic that provides medical care to members of the Colusa community at large, including the only kidney dialysis services in Colusa County, thereby sparing patients the need to drive to Marysville/Yuba City for such service; operating a Wellness Center offering Colusa County residents a state-of-the-art fitness center; making generous donations to charities and other non-governmental organizations in Colusa County; and attracting visitors to the Colusa Casino & Resort, who then patronize other Colusa County businesses; and providing Colusa County with a first-class entertainment and dining facility; and,

WHEREAS, although the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ("IGRA") generally prohibits tribes from conducting gaming on lands that were not in federal trust status on October 17, 1988, and although the voters of Yuba County voted in 2005 against allowing the construction of a tribal casino near the Sutter-Yuba fairgrounds in Yuba County, the U.S. Department of the Interior has decided to accept into federal trust for the Enterprise Rancheria a tract of land located in Yuba County near the Sutter-Yuba Fairgrounds, 56 miles from the Enterprise Rancheria's existing trust land base, in order to enable the Enterprise Rancheria to build a large casino/hotel resort on the newly-acquired land, the Governor has concurred in the Department of the Interior's decision, and the Legislature soon may be asked to ratify a compact that the Governor has negotiated with the Enterprise Rancheria under which the Enterprise Rancheria could operate a Class III gaming facility on the newly-acquired trust land; and,

WHEREAS, because the Colusa Casino & Resort draws the major portion of its customers, as well as a large number of its employees, from the same area in which the Enterprise Rancheria plans to build its new casino, the operation of such a casino would cause a significant decline in the Colusa Casino & Resort's business, and such a decline in turn would have a significant adverse impact on Colusa County's economy, units of local government and the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors alike by, among other things, resulting in the layoff of hundreds of the Tribe's gaming and non-gaming employees, reducing overall economic activity at other businesses in Colusa County, drastically reducing the funding available from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund that now helps support vital law enforcement, public health and safety services to the residents of Colusa County, and reducing the quality of life for the Tribe's members and the rest of Colusa County's people; and,

WHEREAS, neither the Department of the Interior nor the Governor ever consulted with Colusa County in connection with its decision to approve the Enterprise Rancheria's application to have the Yuba County site taken into trust for the construction of a casino, although Colusa County is close enough to the proposed site that it would be adversely affected by such a facility; and,

WHEREAS, the Colusa County Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and Legislature of the State of California not to participate in damaging or destroying the economic base of the Colusa Indian Community and adversely affecting the economy and people of Colusa County by accommodating another tribe's desire to leapfrog over the Colusa Indian Community and other nearby tribes in order to build a casino closer to the major urban areas from which the Colusa Casino & Resort draws most of its patrons; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislature will be asked to ratify a Class III gaming compact between the State of California and the Enterprise Rancheria that would result in the economic devastation of the Colusa Indian Community and substantial harm to Colusa County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Colusa County urgently requests that the Legislature decline to ratify the Class III gaming compact that the Governor has negotiated with the Enterprise Rancheria for the purpose of permitting that tribe to conduct Class III gaming on newly-

acquired lands in Yuba County, and that any ratification bill be taken up as a simple-majority bill heard in regular order, and,


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Legislature passes a bill to ratify the Class III gaming Compact negotiated between the Governor and the Enterprise Rancheria, the Governor is requested to veto such a bill in order to spare the Colusa Indian Community and Colusa County from the severe economic and social harm that almost certainly would follow.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of February, 2013 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Gary J. Evans, Thomas A. Indrieri, Kim Dolbow Vann, Mark D. Marshall, and Denise J. Carter.

NOES: None.


ABSENT: None.


Denise J. Carter, Chairperson
Colusa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
Kathleen Moran, County Clerk
And Ex-Officio Clerk to the
Board of Supervisors

By: 
Ann Nordyke, Deputy

APROVED AS TO FORM


John Ketelsen,
Interim County Counsel

The Commission on the Status of Women, established in 1946, was the first of its kind in the world. It was created by the United Nations to monitor and promote the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in 1948. The Commission has since then been instrumental in the development of international instruments for the advancement of women, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1979.

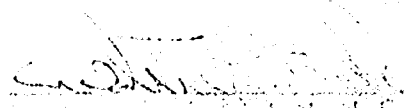
The Commission has also been instrumental in the development of national laws and policies for the advancement of women. It has provided technical assistance to many countries in the area of women's rights and has been instrumental in the development of the Women's Development Fund (WDF) in 1981.

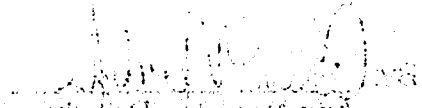
The Commission has also been instrumental in the development of the Women's Empowerment Fund (WEP) in 1991. The WEP is a trust fund established by the United Nations to support the work of the Commission and to promote the advancement of women.

The Commission has also been instrumental in the development of the Women's Rights and Empowerment Fund (WREF) in 1995. The WREF is a trust fund established by the United Nations to support the work of the Commission and to promote the advancement of women.



ATTENTION
 Director General
 Civil Service Commission
 1000 Independence Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20541

APPROVED AS TO FORM

 John K. Nelson
 Acting Secretary


 [Illegible Name]
 Director General