

County of Butte March 12, 2013

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 Butte County is the elected governing body of the County of Butte, and

thus is the general purpose unit of government most immediately responsible for protecting the health, safety and welfare

of persons within Butte County's unincorporated territory; and

WHEREAS, Butte County is primarily rural, with a property tax base that is limited by state and federal ownership of large tracts of land and relatively infrequent sales of agricultural lands that comprise much of the county's

private landholdings; and

WHEREAS, Butte 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, since the Tyme-Maidu Berry Creek and Concow-Maidu Mooretown Rancherias entered into gaming compacts and the People of California approved Proposition 1A in 2000, the Tribes have made major investments

in casinos and hotels on their existing Reservation lands. And while the contributions of the casinos don't fully mitigate

their impacts on the community, the Tribes have become important contributors to the overall economic health, safety and

welfare of Butte County; 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, the proposed Enterprise Rancheria Casino would have a significant adverse impact on Gold Country

Casino and Feather Falls Casino, which would adversely impact Butte County's overall economic health, safety and

welfare; and

WHEREAS, neither the Department of the Interior nor the Governor consulted with Butte 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 Butte County is close enough to the proposed site that it would be adversely affected by such a facility; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Butte County urges the Governor and Legislature of the State of California not to participate in damaging or destroying the economic base of the Butte County Indian Community and adversely impacting the economy and people of Butte County by accommodating another tribe's desire to build a casino closer to the major urban areas from which the Feather Falls Casino and Gold Country Casino 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 Butte Indian Community and substantially harm Butte County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Butte 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 the 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 Butte Indian Community and Butte County from the severe economic and social harm that almost certainly would follow.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Butte County Board of Supervisors this 12th day of March by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

NOT VOTING: _____

BILL CONNELLY, Chair

Butte County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

By: _____

Paul Hahn, Chief Administrative Officer and

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors