

Lou Binninger
Board Member, Yuba County Board of Education

October 10, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor
State of California
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

Please do not allow a Butte County tribe to establish a casino in Yuba County.

Yuba County residents have been deceived by their political leaders. California residents passed Proposition 1A, allowing limited gambling on Indian reservations. Now, Proposition 1A has led to reservation gambling on roller skates.

Yuba County Measure R was passed to rezone an area to make way for a NASCAR raceway. There was no mention in the zoning change of an Indian casino option. Voters said yes to NASCAR, not an Indian casino.

When the raceway deal failed, suddenly county supervisors passed an MOU with the Butte County tribe backed by Chicago financier Gerald Forsythe to build a casino/hotel in Southern Yuba County. No discussions, no hearings, it was a stealth political move. The MOU was passed before most of the residents knew what hit them.

As opposition mounted, the pro-gambling people put the issue on the ballot, Measure G, for or against the casino. In spite half a million dollars spent by Chicagoan Forsythe to assure victory, 52.1% of the voters rejected the Forsythe/tribal effort.

The Yuba County Board of Education, numerous Wheatland School and government boards, the Yuba-Sutter Board of Realtors and the Farm Bureau passed resolutions opposing the tribes move and the casino.

The suggestion that the Enterprise Rancheria people have ancestral rights in Yuba County is nonsense. No DNA, no anthropological studies, no historical lineage----just big money and political propaganda. Repeating the same drivel over and over doesn't make it so.

Yuba County is one of the two poorest counties in California. Gambling is horrible for the poor and for any county that has to do the social clean-up after the thrill is gone.

There is nothing redeeming about this proposal for Yuba County. Enterprise Rancheria has a right to a casino in their community, not ours. If allowed, politicians will once again violate the law and the trust of those they are sworn to represent.

Sincerely,

Lou Binninger
Board Member
Yuba County Board of Education