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May 2, 2016

Congressman Doug LaMalfa
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 5079

Dear Congressman LaMalfa,

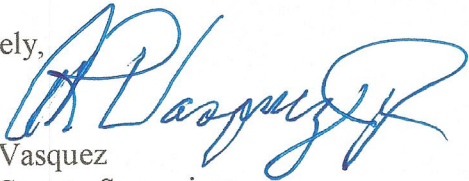
I write today to express my support for H.R. 5079. As a County Supervisor I am alarmed at the potential impacts of Tribal gaming expansion throughout California outside of the regular State compacting process. If tribes are allowed to begin Class III gaming under IGRA with no agreement with the state there will be no incentive for the tribes that are re-negotiating their 1999 compacts to share funds, mitigate impacts, and provide for the costs of being good neighbors.

H.R. 5079 is an incredibly important safeguard for California. If the regular regulatory process by which Indian gaming was established and flourishes in California is to be abandoned by tribes that seek to circumvent the required relationship with the State of California, we invite chaos into a system that has safeguarded the interests of the state while respecting the unique relationship tribes have with the Federal Government. **IGRA as a policy guide is in great jeopardy if these tribes are allowed some special path to gaming that has been denied to other tribes and removes the Governor, the Legislature or the voters in the regulatory process.**

The people of Yuba County voted against the proposed Class III gaming facility that has been discussed since 2004. I am opposed to any effort by tribes and gaming investors to escape their obligations to the State and local governments. I appreciate your efforts to protect the balance that must be reached between competing interests.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,


Andy Vasquez
Yuba County Supervisor