

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

July 20, 2004

Pastor Charles Mattix, III
Barstow Christian Ministerial Association
1636 Paloma Street
Barstow, California 92311

Pastor Joseph Green
Coalition for Responsible Growth
2171 Amethyst Avenue
Barstow, California 92311

Re: Tribal Gaming


Dear Pastors Mattix and Green:

I am responding to your letters of May 16 and July 7, 2004, on behalf of the Coalition for Responsible Growth and the Barstow Christian Ministerial Association, regarding tribal gaming in Barstow.

The Governor considers local community support for a tribal casino a major factor in his determination of whether to agree to a permit gaming by an Indian tribe with land that was obtained in trust after 1988. A local referendum is one method to gauge community support for a casino. But it is not the only method, and the Governor has no policy to require a referendum in all cases.

This office assumes locally elected representatives are in the best position to consider and make decisions that reflect the sentiments of the community. They clearly are responsible to the community which they represent and to the voters who elected them. We will carefully consider community input on the issue of a casino in Barstow.

Sincerely,


PETER SIGGINS
Legal Affairs Secretary