



**COLUSA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CACHIL DEHE BAND OF WINTUN INDIANS**

May 31, 2020

The Honorable Bill Dodd
Chairman
Senate Governmental Organization Committee
1020 N Street, Room 584
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Opposition to SCA 6

Dear Senator Dodd,

On behalf of the Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, I am writing to express the Community's concerns about, and thus its opposition to, SCA 6 in its current form. While the State needs immediate revenue to cover the staggering shortfall caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the measure will not provide the short-term revenue the State needs, and contains provisions that prevent us from supporting it in its current form.

First, the measure would reward commercial card rooms for years of misconduct by ratifying their practice of offering banked card games in violation of P.C. Sec. 330. Tribes have long objected to this infringement on the exclusive gaming rights that the voters conferred on Tribes when they overwhelmingly voted to amend the State Constitution in March, 2000, in exchange for which the State's Tribes made major concessions to the State in the compacts authorized by the voters.

Second, the measure would allow on-line gaming, a practice that our Tribe opposes because of the societal problems associated with on-line gambling -- underage gambling, gambling addiction, corruption of athletes, etc. -- and the potential that Tribes could not participate in a statewide on-line sports wagering market as long as federal law (the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act) requires that Tribes have the sole proprietary interest in their on-Reservation gaming activities, and that wagers accepted by Tribes on their Indian lands must originate on those lands. Simply put, allowing on-line sports wagering could have a devastating impact on tribal and non-tribal brick and mortar facilities, and due to the sole proprietary interest requirement, only a few Tribes with large, successful casinos and limited governmental obligations would be able to offer even on-site sports wagering.

Third, the measure says nothing about the standards for licensing third-party online service providers. The California Horse Racing Board licenses racetrack operators, and Tribal

Gaming Commissions license tribal gaming facilities, their employees and vendors, but who, will be licensing, and under what standards, the third-party service providers whose services undoubtedly would be used to operate sports wagering websites? This is an issue of great concern to our Tribes.

Fourth, there are two problematic issues of timing as noted above, the measure won't be a quick budgetary fix, because by the time a well-regulated sports wagering system could be implemented, the COVID-19 pandemic likely will have long subsided; and because Tribes will require Compact amendments before being able to offer even on-site sports wagering, their entry into the market could be delayed for several years, giving four racetracks and four satellite wagering facilities a huge head start, and likely stranglehold on the market before Tribes could even begin to enter the market.

Finally, this measure would have a profound adverse impact on our tribal government, our citizens, and our hundreds of tribal government and gaming employees. Therefore, there should be meaningful consultation all of California's Tribes before this legislation advances.

For all of these reasons, we oppose SCA 6.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hazel Longmire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hazel Longmire
Vice-Chairwoman
Colusa Indian Community Council