



## California Association of Gaming Investigators and Regulators

May 1, 2010

4141 Ball Road #205, Cypress, CA 90630

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: "Restored Lands Exception"

Dear Senator Feinstein:

As a newly formed association, we have looked at many issues within the gaming world and those of our great State of California. Our members have a vast amount of gaming experience that was accumulated over many, many career lifetimes. Some of it is local, state or national in nature which also includes Tribal gaming across the country.

It is Tribal gaming that caused me as a Board Officer to write this letter. I was the first field representative for California from the National Indian Gaming Commission. I worked with every gaming Tribe and some non-gaming Tribes in California. From those many years of experience with California Tribes, I know where the Pomo Lands are, I know where Mission Indians have lived, and I have worked with many who are Miwok (Me-Wuk).

I volunteered my time to do part of the Proposition 5 and 1A ballot commercials that countered what Nevada casinos had been saying about Tribal gaming. I along with the 108 federally recognized Tribes told the people that Tribal casinos would remain on current Tribal land. That Tribes would not seek areas of land that they were never part of during their history in California. As an NIGC field person I had to tell the Tule River Tribe that they could not move their casino a mere ten (10) miles from the reservation because this new land they purchased was not contiguous to their current property.

Today, we have a Pomo Tribe wanting to move 100 miles from their 44 acre reservation near Ukiah to an area by Richmond, CA. I would like to point out that "the "restored lands exception" cannot be used to give a Tribe sovereignty over land it has never governed before". This ignoring of federal law would give every Tribe in California the right to move anywhere even if it had not governed over that area.

Please look into this matter. Thank you

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