

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: This is Jana?

3 MS. McKEAG: McKeag.

4 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: McKeag. Welcome.

5 MS. McKEAG: Thank you.

6 Hi. Good afternoon. My name is Jana
7 McKeag, and I am Vice President for Government Affairs
8 of Inland Casino Corporation. It is a company that
9 assists Indian tribal governments develop, administer,
10 and market their gaming facilities.

11 From 1991 to 1995, I served as a Bush
12 administration appointee to the National Indian Gaming
13 Commission. I have worked in Indian affairs in
14 various capacities for over 25 years, and I am a
15 member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

16 I'd like to address the Commission from my
17 experiences as a regulator, which as Commissioner
18 Bible can attest is a necessary, but usually thankless
19 job, and also as someone who has spent nearly half of
20 her life working to better the lives of her fellow
21 American Indians.

22 The 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act

1 created a three-tiered regulatory structure to oversee
2 Indian gaming. The federal government actually has a
3 minimal role, with the bulk of the regulatory
4 responsibility falling on tribes and states as
5 prescribed in a compact agreement, and since in 1988
6 the majority of state had neither the resources nor
7 the expertise to regulate Class 3 gaming, casino
8 gaming, most of the regulatory burden was placed on
9 tribal governments.

10 Tribes recognized the success of their
11 gaming operation is dependent on the credibility of
12 their regulatory controls. During my years on the
13 NIGC, I was constantly impressed by the time, effort
14 and resources tribal governments dedicated to creating
15 strong, viable tribal gaming commissions. Please
16 examine these commissions as part of your study.

17 Tribal gaming is regulated by tribal
18 governments because under the law tribes are
19 recognized as sovereign nations by the federal
20 government. Therefore, tribal gaming is governmental
21 gaming, not commercial gaming, and please take this
22 important distinction into account as you undertake

1 your study.

2 Unlike approximately 94 percent of the
3 overall gaming industry, the proceeds of the tribal
4 gaming benefit the citizens of that government and not
5 the shareholders of a commercial entity. In less than
6 ten years the proceeds from Indian gaming have
7 provided benefits and opportunities never imagined
8 under 200 years of unwilling federal dependency.
9 Schools, scholarships, clean water, hospitals, roads,
10 senior citizen centers, drug rehabilitation programs,
11 housing, day care centers, the list goes on.

12 Most importantly, it has replaced
13 hopelessness with employment and pride. Tribes are
14 not the sole beneficiaries of Indian gaming. Inland
15 Casino Corporation has the privilege of working with
16 the Barona Tribe of Michigan Indians located near San
17 Diego. The Berona Tribe and the two other San Diego
18 area tribes, Sychuan and Viejas, employ 4,550 people,
19 primarily non-Indians, with an annual payroll of over
20 \$770 million. They also spend over \$79 million
21 annually, with 4,150 local vendors on goods and
22 services.

1 I appreciate the opportunity to address
2 the Commission, and I look forward to working with you
3 in the future.

4 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.

5 Mr. James Hickey, Jr.

6 MR. HICKEY: Good afternoon, Chairwoman
7 James and Commissioners. I'm James Hickey, President
8 of the American Horse Council, and we very much
9 appreciate this opportunity to appear before you on
10 behalf of the horse racing industry.

11 The American Horse Council includes the
12 major associations of racetracks, breeders' groups,
13 and horsemen's organizations, which collectively
14 comprise the parimutuel racing industry in the United
15 States.

16 Our individual members include horse
17 owners, breeders, jockeys, drivers, trainers,
18 veterinarians, farriers, and others whose livelihood
19 depend on the horse and racing.

20 Parimutuel horse racing is legal in 43
21 states and involves the racing of thoroughbreds,
22 standard breeds, quarter horses, Arabians, Appaloosas