

1 going to be conducted. We've seen the executive power
2 submit to this. We've seen legislative power submit
3 to this, and we've seen judicial power. The last is
4 the most concerning. Gambling is now attacking the
5 drafters of the decisions we have written. "We" means
6 them, but I mean for the state and I mean for those
7 who are seeking to advance the interests of
8 constitutional law in the State of New Mexico.

9 I appreciate the opportunity. I knew I'd
10 be cut off. I gave you much more lengthy comments.
11 Take care and good luck.

12 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.

13 Mr. Stevens.

14 MR. STEVENS: Yes, ma'am. Good afternoon.

15 Madame Chairman and members of the
16 National Gambling Impact Study Commission, my name is
17 Ernie Stevens, Jr. I'm elected council member of the
18 Oneida Tribe of Indians in Wisconsin. I represent our
19 chairwoman today, Deborah Doxtator. She could not be
20 present.

21 The Oneida Nation is located in
22 northeastern Wisconsin near Green Bay. We are

1 governed by a nine-member business committee which
2 consists of four officers and five council members.
3 There are over 13,000 enrolled tribal members, of
4 which nearly 5,000 live on or near our 65,000 acre
5 reservation. In total we employ over 4,500
6 individuals roughly equally divided between Oneida and
7 non-Oneida people.

8 We have been involved in self-managed
9 gaming for more than 20 years for which approximately
10 80 percent of our work force is tied to the activities
11 of our gaming facility.

12 Today I would like to share with you our
13 thoughts about how the Commission might undertake its
14 work and how you might contemplate gaming which occurs
15 in Indian Country.

16 First, I would like to formally invite you
17 to hold at least one of your meetings on the Oneida
18 Reservation. We strongly believe that this Commission
19 needs to gain a hands-on understanding of Indian
20 gaming. You must see our community, meet our
21 employees, and learn about our children for it is our
22 children that are of the utmost importance in our

1 concerns and planning our future.

2 Only then will you be able to understand
3 how truly beneficial tribal governmental gaming has
4 been and will continue to be.

5 I think Ms. McKeag emphasized in her
6 testimony the difference between governmental gaming
7 and other gaming interests.

8 As we understand the enabling legislation,
9 this Commission has been charged with several
10 responsibilities which involve the study of Indian
11 gaming and its impact on social and economic behavior.
12 Therefore, we would propose that the Commission focus
13 on the following issues to help develop your mission.

14 Explain the legal basis for tribal
15 sovereignty and its applications to tribal gaming.

16 Include a discussion of major court
17 decisions affecting Indian gaming.

18 Describe the economic benefits of gaming
19 to Indian tribes, including employment, tax revenues,
20 infrastructure, creation of other economic
21 opportunities, and more.

22 Describe the economic benefits of Indian

1 gaming to the state and local non-Indian communities,
2 including employment, tax revenues, infrastructure,
3 and more.

4 Include the impact on adjunct businesses,
5 such as vendors and other local businesses.

6 Describe the social impact of gaming on
7 Indian tribes and the local, non-Indian communities,
8 including welfare dependency, health care, education
9 and training, alcohol and drug abuse, standard of
10 living, housing, crime, real property values,
11 compulsive gambling, and donations to charitable
12 organizations.

13 Describe the regulatory oversight
14 structure for which Indian gaming operates. Please
15 include the statutory versus the voluntary roles of
16 each regulatory entity.

17 Acknowledge that the \$8 million which our
18 nation alone expends on regulatory oversight of Class
19 3 operations clarifies why the amount of money spent
20 on Class 2 and the National Indian Gaming Commission
21 is as small as it is, and yet insures the integrity of
22 all of our operations.

1 When one sees how combined with the
2 additional regulation resulting from agreements with
3 states through compacting --

4 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Mr. Stevens, I'm going
5 to have to ask you to enter the rest of your statement
6 into the record, and it will be made available to all
7 of the Commissioners. Thank you very much.

8 MR. STEVENS: I apologize, Madame
9 Chairman.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: That's all right.

11 MR. STEVENS: I wasn't using my peripheral
12 vision and utilizing the cards here.

13 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: That's all right.

14 MR. STEVENS: I do have a written
15 statement. The National Congress of American Indians
16 is on your waiting list. We're going to just submit
17 this document for the record.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you very much.

19 MR. STEVENS: Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Ms. Redenia Gilliam --
21 is it Moss?

22 MS. GILLIAM-MOSEE: Mosee.

1 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Mosee.

2 MS. GILLIAM-MOSEE: Yes.

3 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Welcome.

4 MS. GILLIAM-MOSEE: Good afternoon.

5 Who are the faces of people who work in
6 the casino industry? Oftentimes we talk about the
7 gaming industry as though they are people who in
8 themselves are not a part of our community. We are
9 people who attend church. We are people who are on
10 the boards of trustees at churches, synagogues,
11 mosques. We are people who are on the boards of
12 planning boards, zoning boards. We're also very
13 active in school boards associations. We are people
14 who care about our families, and for that reason we
15 need to put a face to the entity of who the people are
16 in gaming.

17 As a junior high school student in
18 Atlantic City, I worked summers as a chambermaid,
19 responsible for 22 rooms per day at \$30 a week.
20 During the Democratic Convention in '64, I was an
21 elevator operator and had the honor of transporting
22 Bobby Kennedy and Pierre Salinger, and in 1978, after