December 1, 2014

Susanne George Research Analyst California Department of Justice Bureau of Gambling Control Sacramento, CA 95820

RE: Proposed Amendment to Gaming Activity Authorization Regulations

Dear Ms. George,

Sincerely,

I am writing to **OPPOSE** the proposed regulations that hinder Players Casino ability to waive collections fees in controlled games. These proposed regulations will cause me to **LOSE MY JOB** at Players Casino and put my family's future at risk. Moreover, the City of Ventura will suffer a sharp reduction in general fund revenue much of which funds police and fire support in our area.

If the Bureau requires that card rooms such as Players Casino charge fees on every hand played, we will be at a serious competitive disadvantage to local tribal casinos and suffer a drastic loss of revenue. For the past seven years, Players Casino has provided safe, legal gaming while contributing LIVING WAGE JOBS and VITAL TAX REVENUE to the CITY OF VENTURA. Many of these jobs and most of the tax revenue will be lost if these regulations become law.

No other gaming business in California is forced by law to charge its customers a fee per wager, and there is no reasonable basis for the Bureau to institute this practice. History has shown that price controls **HURT CONSUMERS** and have no place in a progressive state like California. Please do not cede to the special interests proposing these regulations and let our card room set its pricing based on local market conditions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Name: William Kracht

Signature: William Kracht

Card room: Players Casino

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RE: Proposed Amendment to Gaming Activity Authorization Regulations

Dear Ms. George,

On behalf of the Players Casino, I am writing to inform you of our **OPPOSITION** to any proposed regulations that hinder a gambling establishments ability to collect or waive fees as a such regulations would be a **JOB KILLER** in our community.

These regulations would place an unnecessary burden on cardroom businesses in our area by mandating that they charge their customers certain collection fees per wager. For the past decade, cardrooms have had the freedom to charge their customers as they desired, and the government should not force businesses to charge their customers certain fees. Moreover, a government required collection fee would place an unnecessary restraint on many cardrooms, and position them at a competitive disadvantage to other gaming interests in the State. If these regulations were to go into effect, the cardrooms in our city would go out of business, and hundreds of jobs would be lost, further hindering the City of Ventura's economic recovery.

At a time when many small businesses are struggling through these difficult economic times, it is imperative that businesses have the flexibility to charge their customers as they see fit. Special interests should not be able to push regulations that dictate pricing models so that they do not have to compete with small businesses. This proposal is a form of regulatory price fixing, and it should not be tolerated. Responsible business owners in this state should be able to determine the fees that they want to charge their customers. The cardrooms in our area are a major employer in our community, and their closure would severely disrupt our local economy. For these reasons and more, we respectfully OPPOSE these proposed regulations and label them as a **JOB KILLER**.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter

Sincerely.

William Kracht

**CEO** 

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RE: Proposed Amendment to Gaming Activity Authorization Regulations

Dear Ms. George,

On behalf of the Players Casino, I am writing to inform you of our **OPPOSITION** to any proposed regulations that hinder a gambling establishments ability to collect or waive fees as a such regulations would be a **JOB KILLER** in our community.

These proposed regulations would severely limit my ability to operate my business by mandating that I charge my customers certain collection fees per wager. Since the rise of tribal gaming after the passage of Proposition 1A in the year 2000, my business has had to adapt in order to compete with large tribal casinos who offer a variety of games that I cannot. For the past decade, I have had the ability to waive collection fees for my customers, and there is no reason why I should be forced to charge my customers more than my competition.

If the Bureau were to require that I must charge my customers certain fees, my business would be at a competitive disadvantage, and I would be forced to close my business due to a drastic loss of revenue. If a customer has a choice of whether they are going to pay a collection fee per wager or not, they will always prefer the casino that does not charge a collection fee. For the past few decades, my business has provided entertainment for the citizens of my community while also contributing living wage jobs and vital tax revenue. This all could be lost if these regulations become law.

No other gaming business in California is forced by law to charge their customers a fee per wager, and there is no rational basis for the Bureau to institute this discriminatory practice at the bequest of Special Interests that do not want to compete with other small businesses. This proposal is a form of regulatory price fixing, and it should not be tolerated. Responsible business owners in this state should be able to determine the fees that they want to charge their customers.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

William Kracht

CEO