



# City of Emeryville

INCORPORATED 1896

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1333 Park Avenue. Emeryville, CA 94608-3517

t (510) 596-4300 | f (510) 596-4389

December 20, 2019

Director Stephanie Shimazu  
California Department of Justice  
Bureau of Gambling Control  
PO Box 168024  
Sacramento, CA 95816-8024

**Re: Opposition letter from the Mayor of Emeryville on the  
Rotation of Player-Dealer Position "Concept" Language**

Dear Director Shimazu:

As the Mayor of Emeryville, I want to express my opposition to the proposed concept language as it relates to rotation of Player/Dealer position in cardrooms. The cardroom regulation changes proposed by the Bureau of Gambling Control would have a devastating impact on the cardroom industry, and specifically my local community in Emeryville.

For decades the Oaks cardroom in Emeryville has been a strong corporate partner. The tax revenues paid by the card room make up a significant portion of the City's General Fund which pays for police and fire services, as well as youth and recreational programming. The Oaks offers well-paying jobs and supports community organizations. The Oaks keeps the facility in excellent condition and provides non-gaming amenities such as their popular restaurant. Their ongoing investment improves the quality of life in Emeryville and the region.

Over the last year, the Bureau has heard the pleas of thousands of hardworking Californians, local nonprofits, community groups, and elected officials from California communities who have urged the Bureau to recognize the devastating impact that regulations changes would have on their lives. We ask that the Bureau consider the enormous impact this decision will have across California. As the Bureau considers the proposed regulations that will significantly harm the revenues of cardrooms, we encourage you to recognize the positive impact of cardrooms and to work collaboratively with all stakeholders toward a sensible resolution that protects California's communities and the businesses vital to our continued prosperity.

We urge you to consider the importance of California cardrooms to our communities and the repercussions these proposed regulations changes would have.

Sincerely,

  
Christian Patz  
Mayor  
City of Emeryville

CC: Senator Nancy Skinner  
Assembly Member Buffy Wicks