



JOHN LAZAR
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

156 S. BROADWAY, SUITE 230 | TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA 95380 | PHONE 209-668-5540 | FAX 209-668-5668

November 25, 2014

Ms. Susanne George
Research Analyst
California Department of Justice
Bureau of Gambling Control
4949 Broadway, Room E231
Sacramento, CA 95820

Re: Proposed Amendment of Gaming Activity Authorization Regulations

Dear Ms. George:

On behalf of the City of Turlock, I am writing to inform you of my opposition to any proposed regulations that hinder a gambling establishment's ability to collect or waive fees as such regulations would be a detriment to these jobs in our community.

This bill would severely limit a card room's ability to operate by mandating that card rooms charge their customers certain collection fees per wager. In our community a mandatory collection fee would place our card room at a competitive disadvantage, and as a result may be forced to close due to a drastic loss of revenue.

The card room in our city employs approximately 200 people and its closure would negatively impact our local economy. Moreover, the card room provides important revenues that benefit our city by. These revenues pay for important programs and services including public safety, parks, and recreation, water delivery systems, transportation, and social services.

As our community continues to work through difficult economic times, it is imperative that we are able to maintain our local living wage jobs and tax revenues. I can assure you that our community has benefited from the card rooms resources. The implementation of these proposed regulations would negatively impact our city, and hinder our ability to continue providing quality programs and vital services for our residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Cordially,

John S. Lazar
MAYOR

JSL/smt