



STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

January 22, 2015

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
Attn: Chairman John Barrasso
838 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Vice-Chairman Tester,

As the Governor of Arizona, I am writing to ask for your support in passing the Keep the Promise Act (S. 152/H.R. 308) out of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. This measure, sponsored by Senators John McCain and Jeff Flake is critical to ensuring that gaming in Arizona is limited and well regulated.

The Tohono O'odham Nation, a Southern Arizona-based tribe, is intending to bring an off-reservation casino into Glendale, Arizona, which is approximately 100 miles from the Tribe's actual reservation. They are doing so by exploiting a 1986 law that simply allowed Tribes to establish trust lands. From that law, they have determined that casinos may be erected on trust lands even when unassociated with existing reservation lands. This clearly violates the intent of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Senators McCain and Flake's measure would address the concern of locating a casino in the heart of one of Arizona's largest cities.

Additionally, the establishment of this casino ignores the will of Arizona's voters who, in 2002, passed a measure outlining the limitations on casino venues in the state. The Tohono O'odham Nation is the only tribe to move forward with an off-reservation casino without regard to the concerns of the vast majority of Arizonans.

For these reasons, I ask for your consideration and markup of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona

cc: Vice-Chairman Jon Tester