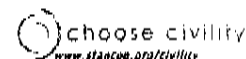




ROY W. WARDEN
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August 2, 2013

The Honorable Roderick D. Wright, Chair
Senate Governmental Organizations Committee
California State Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 820 (Gomez) – Gambling Control Act – Card Player Fees,
Notice of Opposition**

Dear Senator Wright:

The City of Turlock must respectfully oppose AB 820, which would hinder the ability of card rooms to compete with alternative wagering venues as it would unnecessarily force local businesses to charge fees to customers that may not be warranted.

The passage of Proposition 1A in 2000 introduced significant competition for our local, legal card rooms with the inception of large tribal casinos. AB 820 would require card rooms to charge fees to their customers that those tribal casinos are not required to. Neither the casinos nor any other gaming businesses in California are forced by law to charge customers a fee per wager. Therefore, the bill appears to establish an unfair business practice.

The City of Turlock does not understand the rationale behind such a requirement as this would place our local card rooms at a disadvantage when trying to compete with the larger, federally approved casinos. The City of Turlock supports local businesses and offers that responsible business owners should be able to determine the fees that they charge their customers in a free and open market. For these reasons, the City of Turlock opposes AB 820.

Sincerely,

Roy W. Wasden
City Manager

cc: Senator Anthony Cannella, FAX: (916) 445-0773
Assembly Member Kristin Olsen, FAX: (916) 319-2112
Stephen Qualls, League of California Cities' Regional Public Affairs Manager, FAX: (209) 883-0653