



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

SACATON, AZ 85247

RESOLUTION GR-44-09

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFF-RESERVATION GAMING IN ARIZONA

WHEREAS, the Gila River Indian Community Council (the “Community Council”) is the governing body of the Gila River Indian Community (the “Community”); and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2002, Arizona voters approved Proposition 202, which authorized limited, regulated, governmental gaming on Reservations federally recognized in 2002, pursuant to A.R.S 5-601.02; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the Gila River Indian Community urged Arizona voters to support Proposition 202 to permit on-reservation gaming for Arizona Indian tribes through Tribal–State Gaming Compacts; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the Gila River Indian Community also urged the public to reject Proposition 201, which was supported by the race tracks and would have allowed off reservation casinos to be located within Arizona cities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Gila River Indian Community respects and honors its representation to the people of the State of Arizona that Proposition 202 would only authorize limited, regulated, Tribal government gaming on federally recognized reservations in 2002 and would not permit off-reservation gaming; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2002, the Community entered into the Gila River – State of Arizona Gaming Compact which allows the Community to operate and regulate three casinos within the exterior boundaries of the Gila River Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Gila River Indian Community along with the other Tribes in Arizona agreed in Tribal-State Compacts to limit the number of gaming positions and the number of on reservation casinos each tribe would operate as part of the campaign to persuade the State and the public to support Proposition 202; and

WHEREAS, the Tohono O’Odham Nation operates three casinos on its reservation in Pima County under its Proposition 202 Tribal-State Compact, but in 2003 the Tohono O’Odham Nation purchased land outside of its reservation as part of a plan to open a casino in Maricopa County, in an area surrounded by the City of Glendale and is outside the Tohono O’Odham Nation’s aboriginal lands as agreed by the Four Southern Tribes Cultural Working Group; and

WHEREAS, the Tohono O'Odham Nation has now submitted an application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to have 135 acres of land near the 101 Freeway and Northern Ave. placed in federal trust status and to create a new reservation for the purpose of operating a \$500 million casino resort in Maricopa County; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary review of the legal status of the application by the Tohono O'Odham Nation indicates that it does not legally qualify for Indian gaming purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Gila River Indian Community opposes off-reservation gaming, including the current efforts by the Tohono O'Odham Nation, as contrary to the terms of Proposition 202 as presented to the people of the State of Arizona in 2002.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Gila River Indian Community Council opposes off-reservation gaming, including the current efforts by the Tohono O'Odham Nation to operate a casino resort in Glendale, Arizona.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Governor, or in his absence the Lieutenant Governor, is authorized to execute this resolution and to carry out the intent of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to authority contained in Article XV, Section 1, (a) (7), (9), (18), and Section 4 of the amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community, ratified by the Tribe January 22, 1960, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on March 17, 1960, the foregoing Resolution was adopted on the **4th** of **March 2009**, at a regular Community Council Meeting held in **District 3, Sacaton, Arizona** at which a quorum of **12** Members were present by a vote of: **12** FOR; **0** OPPOSE; **0** ABSTAIN; **5** ABSENT; **0** VACANCIES.

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY