



# NEWS RELEASE

Contra Costa County Supervisor  
**JOHN GIOIA** (joy-a)  
District One

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 1, 2005

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TAKE OFFICIAL POSITION  
ON URBAN INDIAN GAMING**

**County Lawmakers Expected to Vote on Five Critical Proposals**

What: Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors vote on 5 key Indian Gaming Proposals  
Where: Board of Supervisors, Board Chambers  
651 Pine Street, Martinez, CA  
When: Tuesday, April 5, 2005  
Approximately 1:00 p.m.

**MARTINEZ, Calif.**, Supervisors John Gioia (District One), and Gayle B. Uilkema (District Two), are introducing a proposal at the Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting to limit Indian gaming in the county. The resolution (2005-181) would ban the creation or expansion of any Indian gaming casinos or new Indian reservations with gaming anywhere in Contra Costa County.

There are currently plans for three large casinos within 8 miles of each other in Supervisor Gioia's densely populated urban district. The casinos are proposed for the Pt. Molate shoreline in Richmond, near Interstate 80 in San Pablo, and along the Richmond Parkway in North Richmond.

In addition to opposing Indian casinos, the proposal also calls for the Board of Supervisor to support Senator Dianne Feinstein's Senate Bill 113, which would undo the federal approval for the Lytton Tribe's Casino San Pablo and force the tribe to go through the Department of Interior process required of other tribes. What's more, on the *same day* the Board of Supervisors will be voting, Senator Feinstein's bill will also be heard before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.

Supervisors Gioia and Uilkema are also asking the Board to support Assemblyman Joe Nation's proposed state constitutional amendment placing a moratorium on new Indian casinos in California until 2008 so a thorough and complete study can be performed on the Indian gaming.

"When voters approved Proposition 1A allowing casino-style gambling on Indian lands, they did so with the assurance that tribal gaming would be limited to existing Indian reservations, none of which were then in densely populated urban areas," said Supervisor Gioia. "Voters did not expect a major casino to be located in the middle of their own urban community."

Numerous studies and actual experience of other communities have shown that Indian casinos have caused extensive community impacts, such as increased traffic congestion, noise, air and water pollution, as well as increased law enforcement and public safety burdens, and additional social and health impacts, costing local governments hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The Federal and State processes of approving Indian casinos do not guarantee that local communities will be fully compensated for all of the regional impacts that occur.

“Having three casinos within 8 miles of each other would make West Contra Costa gambling central for California,” said Supervisor Gioia. “Urban gambling would dramatically change the character of our community and I have heard loud and clear from residents that they are against this change..”

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