



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, *Chair*
Appropriations
Education
Governmental Oversight and Accountability
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Budget Commission

SENATOR BILL GALVANO

21st District

March 6, 2017

Marcellus W. Osceola, Chairman, Tribal Council
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road, Suite 420
Hollywood, Florida 33024

Re: Pending Compact Legislation; CS/SB 8

Dear Chairman Osceola:

Thank you for your recent letter on behalf of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, to Governor Scott, President Negron and Speaker Corcoran concerning CS/SB 8 and the pending gaming compact legislation in the House of Representatives. I am responding on behalf of President Negron and the Florida Senate.

The Florida Senate values the mutually beneficial relationship that has existed between the State of Florida and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. I am optimistic that we can continue and build upon that relationship. On a personal note, you and I have known each other for a long time and can work together.

I agree with you that the proposed 2015 compact should be updated. Additionally, elements of that compact could and should be included in any new agreement enacted between the Seminole Tribe and the state of Florida.

When the Senate bill was before the Senate Committees on Appropriations and Regulated Industries, I made it clear that inaction on the subject of gaming is **not** an option for many reasons including, but not limited to the pending litigation. Negotiations between and among all parties must address all Florida gaming issues in order to pass meaningful comprehensive gaming legislation. In short, approval of a new, revised compact must occur concurrently with, and is interdependent upon, resolution of a number of gaming issues, including matters relating to and affecting Florida's pari-mutuel industry, cardrooms, designated player games, blackjack, and operation of slot machine facilities in the referendum counties.

REPLY TO:

- 1023 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 201, Bradenton, Florida 34205 (941) 741-3401
- 420 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5021

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

JOE NEGRON
President of the Senate

ANITERE FLORES
President Pro Tempore

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Without a doubt, resolving these matters will require patient and thoughtful, good faith negotiations between and among all the affected parties. I am prepared, on behalf of the Senate, to do just that.

CS/SB 8, has been reported favorably through the committee process and is now ready for consideration by the full Senate. Please understand that I will continue to move this legislation forward concurrent with any negotiations by and between the parties.

Therefore, in response to your letter and in light of the above, I request a meeting with you or one of your representatives to discuss this matter in detail. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill".

Bill Galvano

cc: Governor Rick Scott
President Joe Negron
Speaker Richard Corcoran
Jim Shore, Esq.
Joe Webster, Esq.