

MORONGO
BAND OF
MISSION
INDIANS



A SOVEREIGN NATION

SAN MANUEL
BAND OF MISSION INDIANS



*the
Gardens*
HAWAIIAN GARDENS CASINO

*the
Bicycle*
HOTEL CASINO



THE
COMMERCE
HOTEL · CASINO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 24, 2016

CONTACTS:
MIKE ROTH (on behalf of San Manuel)
916.444.7170 or mike@paschalroth.com

MIKE FISHER (on behalf of Morongo)
909.234.3593 or mfisher@OPRUSA.com

Coalition of Tribes, Cardrooms Aligns to Support Asm. Adam Gray's New iPoker Legislation

*New Bill Represents Breakthrough Negotiations that Can Set the Tone for
Passage of Responsible iPoker Legislation This Year*

SACRAMENTO, CA – A growing coalition of tribal governments, cardrooms and consumers today applauded the introduction of AB 2863, a bill to authorize and regulate iPoker in California.

The bill, authored by Assemblyman Adam Gray represents a breakthrough in the legislative logjam that has stymied efforts to pass online poker legislation for nearly a decade.

Coalition tribes and cardrooms praised Assemblyman Gray's approach to moving online poker legislation forward. Tribal members were particularly optimistic after a February 11 meeting with Assembly Governmental Organization Committee Chair Gray, Assembly GO Vice Chair Eric Linder and tribal leaders from both sides of the iPoker debate, in which everyone present agreed to move forward with iPoker legislation and begin an inclusive and transparent process that invited participation from all stakeholders.

In a letter to Asm. Gray last Friday, **San Manuel chairwoman Lynn Valbuena said**, “After eight years of discussion, very few issues remain outstanding... We are optimistic that by working together we can get an iPoker bill passed this year.”

Morongo Tribal Chairman Robert Martin agreed, saying “We appreciate the work by Chairman Gray and Vice Chair Linder to bring tribal stakeholders with varying views on iPoker together for a frank and transparent discussion aimed at reaching consensus on the last few remaining issues. The bill language reflects the positive discussions we had at the Feb. 11 meeting and the agreement that we would continue working together to move iPoker forward.”

Members of the coalition reiterated its commitment to putting in the hours and time necessary to establish the framework for a vibrant, competitive marketplace this year, one that provides superior consumer protections, requires strict oversight and regulation of licensees and service providers, and ensures that the state receives a reasonable return.

The new bill would:

- Establish a regulatory framework for Internet Poker in California
- Create a fund to share iPoker revenues with horse tracks
- Institute strict standards for fairness, consumer protection and revenue to the state
- Include safeguards against underage play and problem gambling

The coalition includes major gaming tribes (Morongo Band of Mission Indians, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, and the United Auburn Indian Community) and California’s three largest card clubs (Commerce Casino, Hawaiian Gardens Casino and Bicycle Casino).

The group is part of Californians for Responsible iPoker, a broad and growing coalition that also includes more than 10,000 California citizens who have signed up in support of passing internet poker legislation.

About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as a sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment. San Manuel operates San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino.

About the Morongo Band of Mission Indians

The Morongo Band of Mission Indians is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe that operates the Morongo Casino Resort & Spa near Banning (Riverside County), California, under a Class III gaming compact with the State of California. The Tribe exercises governmental jurisdiction over the 34,000+ acre Morongo Indian Reservation. Since 2009, the Morongo Band has been in the forefront of efforts to give California's online poker players renewed access to the online games from which they've been excluded since 2011. The Tribe's California LLC, Morongo Internet Poker, is one of the members of the California Internet Poker LLC.

About Commerce Casino

Commerce Casino, the largest poker casino in the world, has more than 200 tables featuring about every form of poker: Texas Hold 'em, 7-Card Stud, Omaha, Pot Limit, Mexican Poker, Pineapple, Draw, Low-Ball and many others. Commerce Casino is recognized for its innovative "Bring Your Home Game to Commerce" program enabling poker fans to invite friends/family for a casual home game, bachelor party or birthday celebration with a professional dealer in a casino setting. Commerce Casino is located at 6131 East Telegraph Rd., Commerce, CA 90040, just off the Santa Ana (5) Freeway at the Washington Blvd. exit. For more information, go to CommerceCasino.com or call 323.721.2100.

About Bicycle Casino

The Bicycle Casino has been a premier gaming destination in Southern California since it's opening in 1984. Located in Bell Gardens, it has historical employed nearly 2,000 people hosting daily customers, international visitors and poker celebrities. Under the leadership of General Partners Bob Carter and Hashem Minaiy, they are expanding their facility which will soon open a world class 100 room luxury hotel to accommodate their growing tournament business.

Active participants in their community, the Bike (as it's commonly known) contributes significant resources to the public safety and recreational needs of its Bell Gardens neighbors, provides 60% of the City of Bell Gardens annual budget, and through its Bicycle Casino Community Foundation, provides several thousands of dollars annually in college scholarships to deserving students.

About Hawaiian Gardens Casino

Hawaiian Gardens Casino has been an integral part of the City of Hawaiian Gardens for nearly 20 years. The Hawaiian Garden Casino opened with five tables and has grown to nearly 200 tables in our current 59,500 square foot facility. Hawaiian Gardens Casino is the second largest card club and ranks second in revenue in the world. Hawaiian Gardens Casino is presently constructing a new 220,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art casino. Scheduled to open in the first quarter of 2016, this new facility will include 300 gaming tables as well as a restaurant, lounge, VIP gaming section and event center capable of hosting 75 tournament tables.