



MILLE LACS BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

RESOLUTION 06-02-125-94

**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL #2230
REGARDING TRIBAL GAMING.**

WHEREAS, The Mille Lacs Reservation Band Assembly is the duly elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians, a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe,

WHEREAS, under the Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly has the authority to protect the interests and well-being of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in the 1987 decision of Cabazon Band of Mission Indian v. California, affirmed the exclusive right of sovereign tribal governments to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands if the gaming activity is conducted on Indian lands within a state which does not as a matter of criminal law and public policy, prohibit such gaming activity; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress' passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) constituted a substantial erosion of tribal sovereignty and allowed state governments to involve themselves in the regulation of tribal gaming activities; and

WHEREAS, despite such intrusion upon tribal sovereignty, Tribes throughout the United States with the utmost of good faith to IGRA, worked diligently to both the letter and spirit of the law; and

WHEREAS, federally recognized tribes are now faced with S. 2230, which proposes amendments to IGRA, which would be the single greatest intrusion on Indian tribal sovereignty since the termination era; and

WHEREAS, S.2230 would thoroughly undermine the Cabazon decision and eliminate those sovereign rights of Tribes which were affirmed in the Cabazon decision; and

WHEREAS, S. 2230 would effectively reward state governments which have defied the intentions of Congress and the letter and the spirit of IGRA by improperly using IGRA to unjustly interfere with tribal government affairs and to deprive Tribes of their sovereign and statutory gaming rights; and,

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WHEREAS, S.2230 would create a new bureaucratic red tape that threatens to reverse the substantial progress made in recent years to promote self-governance and eliminate the paternalistic policies of the past; and

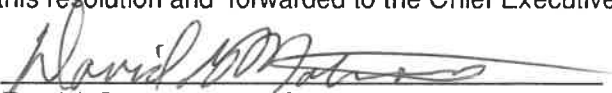
WHEREAS, S. 2230 is so fundamentally flawed in structure and content that no amount of time or effort can make it a workable piece of legislation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mille Lacs Band Assembly does hereby oppose the introduction of S.2230 in the U.S. congress and that it be withdrawn by the sponsors.

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED, that further legislation by the U.S. government to further erode tribal sovereignty shall be considered a breach of trust responsibility and should not be considered by the U.S. Senate or other Legislative body.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a quorum of legislators being present held on the 19th day of July 1994 at Vineland, Minnesota by a vote of 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of Assembly to be affixed to this resolution and forwarded to the Chief Executive for concurrence.


David G. Matrious, Speaker of Assembly

IN CONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of Assembly, we, the Administrative Policy Board hereunto recommends to set the hand of the Chief Executive to this resolution.


Marge Anderson, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND