



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF
OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

RESOLUTION 07-03-48-97

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ENACTMENT OF H.R. 325 AND H.R. 334.

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Reservation Band Assembly is the duly elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, a Federally-recognized Indian Tribe, and;
- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band is a sovereign Indian Tribe with powers of self-government and has a long standing government-to-government relationship with the United States; and,
- WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States, in the 1987 case of *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians* (480 US 202, 208), upheld the right of Indian tribes to engage in, and regulate, gaming activity on their land; and,
- WHEREAS, this right was recognized by the Congress in the enactment of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) as a means to promote tribal economic development, tribal self-sufficiency and strong tribal governments; and,
- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and many other Indian tribes have successfully engaged in gaming enterprises pursuant to the IGRA which provides badly needed employment, tools for economic development of Indian reservations, development of surrounding non-Indian communities, funding for basic tribal services, programs and infrastructure development; and
- WHEREAS, Congressman Gerald Solomon (R.NY) introduced in the 105th Congress the following two bills which are destructive of tribal rights--
- (1) H.R. 325, a bill which would impose the 34% Federal Unrelated Business Income Tax on the net revenues of Indian tribal governments from gaming enterprises; and,
 - (2) H.R. 334, a bill which would destroy Indian tribal sovereignty by subjecting tribal gaming activities to full state control and regulation; and,
- WHEREAS, the Indian tribes entered into several compromises with state and other non-Indian interests in the enactment of IGRA which limits our rights under the Cabazon decision; and,
- WHEREAS, enactment of either H.R. 325 or H.R. 334 into law would be yet another instance of the United States breaking its word to the Indian tribes and would cripple the development of our reservations and our ability to raise our standard of living.
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe does strongly oppose the enactment of H.R. 325 and H.R. 334, which would bring further discredit upon the United States in the conduct of its relations with Indian tribes and would be destructive of tribal rights and sovereignty; and,

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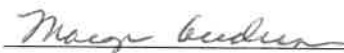
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be provided to Congressman Solomon; Congressman Don Young, Chairman of the House Resources Committee; Congressman George Miller, Ranking Democrat on the House Resources Committee; Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt; and President William J. Clinton.

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council, a quorum of legislators being present held on the 11th day of February, 1997 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 hand of the Speaker of the Assembly to be affixed to this resolution.


David Matrious, Speaker of the Assembly

INCONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of Assembly, we, the Administrative Policy Board hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Chief Executive to this resolution.


Marge Anderson, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND