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Larry Echo Hawk
Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs
Indian Affairs
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Echo Hawk:

I write to lobby you against the full-court press you are currently receiving by my elected officials from New York, knowing full well that it is a wasted effort on my part. Yes, I am cynical (and I am a Democrat!) and I have to try.

I am referring to the major intense effort being taken by my NY State politicians (from Schumer to Hinchey to Gunther etc.) to influence you to reverse former Secretary Kempthorne's decision vis a vis "Reservation Shopping."

Yes, I understand why my political representatives are seeking that reversal, they see a possible potential way to earn "free" money and that is more attractive and worth prostituting themselves for than the alternative (no casinos and no easy free money).

Support by my politicians, besides being a morally bankrupt position (easy money despite the consequences), ignores the reality of a body of literature that documents that Casinos damage the economies of the host communities (despite the promises to the contrary).

I would recommend to them that they read the NY Times article entitled: [Recession Cuts Into States' Gambling Revenues](#) by Ian Urbina. (Sep 10, 2009. p. A.1) I have attached a copy for your information. I have also included flyers that were produced by *No Saugerties Casino*, a local group formed to fight a proposed Indian reservation to be used as the site for a casino in Saugerties -- by a tribe in Oklahoma.

Sincerely (but without any hope),

Susan Puretz

Enc.