



MIKE HUNTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 19, 2019

The Honorable Bill Anoatubby
Governor
Chickasaw Nation
520 W. Arlington
Ada OK 74820

Re: Proposal for Enhancing Tribal-State Cooperation and Tribal-State Gaming
Compacts

Dear Governor Anoatubby:

As expressed in our previous communications, both the Governor and I greatly value the importance of our intergovernmental relationship and your contributions to Oklahoma. Recognizing this, we believe that recent changes in federal law and our experience over the last 15 years provide us with a joint opportunity to improve Oklahoma as a destination for gaming while also enhancing tribal-state relations.

With that in mind, the State has developed and seeks to present approaches to modify the gaming compacts at a meeting that we will work with each of you to schedule. We are proposing to discuss the following areas for improved compacts:

- **Expanding the Scope of Authorized Gaming**, to allow tribes to conduct a wider range of Class III gaming, as well as new forms of gaming that are now available based on changes in federal law or technology, including sports wagering, recognizing current market conditions and the need to remain competitive with gaming activities in other jurisdictions.
- **Joint Tribal-State Economic Development**, to allow the benefits of gaming to strengthen intergovernmental partnerships by using the compacts to create and fund joint tribal-state economic development initiatives, especially in the rural areas that are home to many Oklahoma tribal members and gaming facilities.
- **Other Compact Improvements**, including revising the dispute resolution provision to comply with federal law, addressing changes in federal tax laws that discourage gaming, creating uniformity for off-track betting, and improving the audit and compliance provisions to increase transparency and accountability and recognize changes in the law, technology, and the scope of gaming.

- **Payments for Benefits of Exclusivity**, to recognize any additional benefits to the tribes resulting from changes to the compacts, including expanded gaming, exclusivity that mitigates competition, and other economic benefits.

We remain open, of course, to hearing any substantive ideas your tribe would like to propose in order to improve the gaming compacts. We also want to address other agreements relating to tribal-state relations that comport with federal law and redound to our mutual benefit.

I ask that, as soon as possible, we meet at the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office to confer on these areas of discussion and to explain in more detail the State's approach. I hope that this plan is acceptable to you and I will be reaching out to tribal leaders in the next several days to discuss a convenient date. As I stated recently, the dynamic and delicate nature of these discussions counsel in favor of having them face-to-face.

I am confident that if we work with diligence we can come to an agreement on improving the compacts. I know that we are stronger united and working together. Thank you for your attention and I look forward to working with you to conclude a mutually satisfactory and beneficial agreement.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hunter". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mike Hunter
Attorney General of Oklahoma