

CITY OF ASHLAND

June 18, 2018

Secretary Ryan Zinke
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Coquille Indian Off-Reservation Gaming in Western Oregon

Dear Secretary Zinke:

Ashland Mayor John Stromberg and its City Council recently formally requested that the City Administrator write to express its opposition to plans by any Tribe to build a casino in or near the City of Ashland.

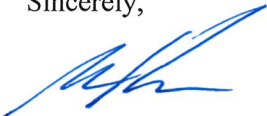
A current case in point is the Coquille Tribe's apparent interpretation of the federal Restoration Act as authority to allow it to open an Indian gaming facility in Ashland. A casino in or near Ashland would fundamentally alter the unique character of our city.

We share our fellow elected officials' concerns that the Coquille's proposal would violate states' rights in at least two major ways: first, by circumventing the federal legal requirement that the Oregon Governor concur with the project; and second, by ignoring the legal requirement to enter into a compact with the Governor on sharing any Class II gaming revenues with state or local governments and otherwise mitigating the impacts of a large-scale gaming facility.

We ask you to issue a determination that protects cities like ours from unplanned and unforeseen impacts from tribal gaming facilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Adam Hanks
Interim City Administrator

cc: Timothy Williams, Deputy Director
Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW, Room 6213
Washington, D.C. 20240

John Stromberg, Mayor
City of Ashland, Oregon

