

February 4, 2015

## **STOP INSTANT RACING CASINOS IN IDAHO**

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720

Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden  
700 W. Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0010

Dear Idaho leader,

We are writing to you to voice our collective concern regarding Vegas-style casino gaming recently introduced at off-reservation locations such as Post Falls, Boise and Idaho Falls under the pretense of wagering on historical horse races.

This new form of casino gaming, called Instant Racing, has been determined in several states to be nothing more than illegal video slot machines attempting to pass as horse racing. If Instant Racing is not stopped, we could see these installed in one location in every county in the state.

Furthermore, these new off-reservation casinos will directly harm one of the largest employers and economic drivers in North Idaho – the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. As community members, we can attest to the positive impacts the Coeur d'Alene Tribe has on our community and we have seen firsthand how far the Tribe has come in the twenty years since the Coeur d'Alene Tribe brought gaming to their reservation. Today, the Tribe employs nearly 2,000 people in north Idaho and helps fuel our region's economy. We applaud them for being such responsible managers of their gaming operation and we count them as a strong and essential community partner.

The Tribe has kept its promises with the state and has gone above and beyond to provide for and partner with communities throughout all of Idaho, providing millions of dollars in donations and services to our schools, transportation infrastructure, healthcare needs and other causes. Let's not jeopardize our important relationship with the tribes in Idaho.

**We believe it is your duty to uphold the Idaho State Constitution and take immediate action to stop illegal activity occurring in the State. We encourage you to take a thorough look at these new machines and stop these Instant Racing Machines before they spread to every county.**

Sincerely,

**Sandi Bloem**  
Former Mayor of Coeur d'Alene

**Jack Riggs**  
Executive Chairman & CEO, Pita Pit USA, Inc.  
Former Lt. Governor of Idaho



**Steve Widmyer**

Mayor, City of Coeur d'Alene

**Joe Dunlap**

President of North Idaho College

**Woody McEvers**

President, Coeur d'Alene City Council

**Amy Evans**

Coeur d'Alene City Council Member

**Major Benton Markham**

Executive Director, Salvation Army Kroc Center

**Ron Nilson**

President, Groundforce Worldwide

**Mark Browning**

Vice President for Communications and Governmental Relations, North Idaho College

**Rocky Watson**

Former Sheriff, Kootenai County

**Kiki Miller**

Coeur d'Alene City Council Member

**Christie Wood**

President, Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations  
Board of Trustees Chair, North Idaho College

**Steve & Marilyn Griffitts**

**Sandy Patano**

**Steve Wilson**

**Matthew Handelman**

**Suzanne Metzger**

CCS:

Senate State Affairs Committee Chairman Curt McKenzie

Senate State Affairs Committee Members

House State Affairs Committee Chairman Thomas Loertscher

House State Affairs Committee Members

Senator Steve Vick

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Representative Eric Redman

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