RESOLUTION NO. 09-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING URBAN CASINOS.

WHEREAS, the Federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) authorizes federally recognized Indian Tribes to conduct class III gaming on Indian lands, as defined by IGRA; and

WHEREAS, IGRA requires the State to negotiate in good faith for the conclusion of tribal-state gaming compacts with Indian tribes that request such negotiations when those tribes have eligible Indian lands located in the State; and

WHEREAS, In 1998 California voters approved Proposition 5, which allows for the operation of slot machines and house banked card gaming by California Indian tribes in accordance with Federal law; and

WHEREAS, In 2000 California voters approved Proposition 1A that amended the Constitution to authorize the Governor to negotiate and conclude compacts, subject to ratification by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, during the campaigns to approve Propositions 5 & 1A, California voters were assured that approval of these measures would not result in tribal casinos being located in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have expressed their desire to curtail the expansion of casinos and gambling in the State of California by overwhelmingly rejecting the November 2004 two statewide initiatives to expand Nevada style gambling to non-tribal lands and permit unlimited numbers of slot machines on tribal land; and

WHEREAS, there is already on Indian casino in the densely populated urban area of western Contra Costa County, with two other tribes seeking to put land into trust and operate casinos, all within 8 miles of each other; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany has serious concerns about the detrimental effects of urban casinos for the following reasons:

- 1. Urban casinos would have harmful social and economic impacts on our local communities.
 - 2. Urban casinos create public safety and public health risks.
- 3. Urban casinos would worsen traffic congestion, impacting the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of local residents and creating major challenges for emergency services and public transportation.
- 4. Urban casinos prey overwhelmingly on low-income and vulnerable individuals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council hereby opposes the development or expansion of any further Indian gaming casinos, as well as the establishment of reservations on which there could be gaming operations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk be instructed to send a copy of this Resolution to U.S. Senator Feinstein, U.S. Senator Boxer, Congresswoman Lee, Governor Schwarzenegger, State Senator Hancock and State Assemblywoman Skinner

MARGE ATKINSON MAYOR