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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

James Roger Madalena

A JOINT RESOLUTION

APPROVING A TRIBAL-STATE CLASS III GAMING COMPACT BETWEEN THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO AND THE NAVAJO NATION.

WHEREAS, the Compact Negotiation Act authorizes the
governor to negotiate the terms of compacts between the state
and Indian nations, tribes and pueblos located in New Mexico
for the conduct of class III gaming pursuant to the federal
Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, a negotiated compact for class III
gaming was approved by the legislature and by the United States
department of the interior and was entered into in 2003 by the
governor on behalf of the state and by the Navajo Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Compact Negotiation Act provides for
legislative involvement in the negotiation process through the
deliberations of the legislative committee on compacts and by

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1 requiring the approval, through a joint resolution, of a
2 compact or amendments to a compact by a majority vote of both
3 houses of the legislature before the compact or amendments may
4 be executed by the governor; and

5 WHEREAS, Governor Susana Martinez on January 17, 2014
6 submitted to the legislative committee on compacts a proposed
7 compact between the state and the Navajo Nation; and

8 WHEREAS, the legislative committee on compacts reviewed
9 and considered the proposed compact negotiated by the governor
10 and the Navajo Nation and, based upon those deliberations and
11 pursuant to the Compact Negotiation Act, requested the governor
12 to renegotiate with the Navajo Nation the provision of the
13 proposed compact that allows the Navajo Nation to operate no
14 more than five class III gaming facilities to instead allow no
15 more than three class III gaming facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, the governor reported to the legislative
17 committee on compacts on February 1, 2014 that the Navajo
18 Nation would not agree to the requested change regarding the
19 number of class III gaming facilities but did agree to two
20 technical and grammatical changes; and

21 WHEREAS, on February 5, 2014, the legislative committee on
22 compacts passed a motion to submit to the legislature a joint
23 resolution with a recommendation that the proposed compact be
24 approved; and

25 WHEREAS, the legislative committee on compacts hereby

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1 submits to the legislature the proposed class III gaming
2 compact negotiated between the governor and the Navajo Nation
3 with its recommendation that the proposed compact be approved;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the proposed class III gaming compact
6 between the state and the Navajo Nation, attached hereto,
7 submitted to the legislative committee on compacts on January
8 17, 2014 and as amended on February 1, 2014, and as negotiated
9 and agreed to by the governor and the Navajo Nation, be
10 approved.