



February 23, 2019

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn,

The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, through the operations of its Naskila Gaming facility, has proven to be a crucial part of the economic development in the region. They are now the third largest employer in Polk County. We need your assurance that these jobs, and the spinoff jobs created by this facility, are protected.

Representative Brian Babin (R-Woodville) filed H.R. 759, the Equal and Fair Opportunity Act of 2019, that will clarify the right of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas to offer gaming on its tribal land and protect hundreds of Texas jobs. We need you to support the similar language in the Senate that will assure the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas to receive the federal recognition they need to continue to operate Naskila Gaming.

Since the Tribe opened Naskila Gaming, an alcohol-free entertainment center featuring electronic bingo, in May 2016 it has grown to serve 1 million visitors a year. The Texas Forest Country Partnership, an economic development corporation for 12 southeast Texas counties, commissioned an analysis of the economic impact of Naskila Gaming. The report reveals that Naskila Gaming is having a significant impact on not only Polk and Tyler counties, but the entire Deep East Texas region. The study found that Naskila Gaming had created a total of 561 fulltime jobs and injects a staggering \$139.6 million a year into the Texas economy.

It is vital to the entire community that the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas receive federal protection to continue its Naskila Gaming operations. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Rusty Dorman
General Manger
Eastex Telephone Coop., Inc.

Livingston Branch Office

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February 23, 2019

The Honorable Ted Cruz
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building #404
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cruz,

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