

**ONALASKA POLICE DEPARTMENT
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To whom it may concern:

The Alabama- Coushatta Tribe of Texas, through the operations of its Naskila Gaming Facility, has proven to be a crucial development in the region. They are now the third largest employer on 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 of 2016 the support from the surrounding communities has grown. Naskila Gaming has helped tremendously with lowering the unemployment rate in Polk County, as well as surrounding counties. There are visitors coming to Naskila Gaming from as far South as Houston and as far North as Lufkin. The weekends are proof positive that the people of East Texas and Texas alone have enjoyed the Gaming facility. The Naskila Gaming facility on weekends entertain numbers of anywhere from 900- 1500 visitors. The Gaming facility uses local business for construction projects which helps the County with its economic needs.

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,

John Maddox
Chief of Police
Onalaska Police Department
Onalaska Texas 77360, Polk County