

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATOR LORIGO

Re: Opposition to New Seneca Niagara Casino in Monroe County

WHEREAS, Erie County is a member of the Western Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation, founded in 1973, and currently made up of 15 member counties and 2 cities; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca Nation has proposed the construction of a Vegas-style casino in the Town of Henrietta located in Monroe County, west of Route 14, that will directly compete with WROTB owned property; and

WHEREAS, many local officials in and around Monroe County have publically expressed their opposition to the creation of said new casino, including the Town Board of Henrietta, Ontario County, Seneca County, Niagara County, Genesee County, Livingston County, Orleans County, Schuyler County and several area New York State Senators and Assemblymen; and

WHEREAS, it has come to our attention that a new casino operating within the Western New York area would seriously jeopardize the operations of the WROTB, which has delivered \$215 million in operating and surcharge revenues for the local municipalities of the WROTB member communities, \$161 million for education expenses, and \$53 Million for the horse and agriculture industries since its inception; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the WROTB, Erie County would like to express its opposition to the proposed plans for a new Seneca Nations casino located in Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, while Western New York is in need of economic development to do so at the expense of other established New York State businesses is counterproductive, as it would directly compete with the Batavia Downs and Finger Lakes Gaming and the off-track horse racing industry in the state; and

WHEREAS, the tax exempt status of the new casino would divert a significant amount of area off-track betting revenue through the WROTB and remove it out of the Western New York tax base entirely.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County of Erie Legislature opposes the creation of the Seneca Nation's proposed gambling establishment in west of Route 14, and be it further

**RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Office, the WNY Delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly, the Executive Vice President and CEO of the WROTB and Batavia Downs Casino Michael Nolan, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.**

**Fiscal Impact: Positive, as prevention of a new tax free casino would leave the revenue in the hands of non-tax exempt established WROTB companies.**