



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

MAYOR
ESTHER SANCHEZ

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February 24, 2021

The Honorable Assembly Member Tom Lackey
California State Capitol
Sacramento, California, 95814

Re: AB 1321 (Lackey) Gambling Establishments - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Tom Lackey,

On behalf of the City of Oceanside, I'm writing to support AB 1321. The City of Oceanside is the home to Oceans 11, a licensed cardroom gambling establishment employing over 350 area residents.

AB 1321 would shift the authority to determine the number of gaming tables that can be permitted in a card room from the Department of Justice Bureau of Gambling Control and the California Gambling Control Commission to local government. AB 1321 also removes gaming tables from the moratorium. It's imperative that cities, especially post-COVID19, use their authority to maximize economic development, job creation, and local revenues by choosing to allow or disallow an increase in number of gaming tables in licensed gaming establishments in their cities. Cities are in the best position to ascertain the demand for lawful gaming within their boundaries.

Due to the pandemic, to facilitate safe operations and ensure social distancing measures, cardrooms will need the ability to operate more tables with fewer players. Cities, and not the Department of Justice Bureau of Gambling Control and the California Gambling Control Commission, have the local knowledge and inspecting ability to determine the appropriate number of gaming tables that should be permitted. Cities already have the authority to condition and regulate the operation of cardrooms, and have effectively enforced the conditions and regulations imposed on cardrooms.

We fully support Oceans 11 in Oceanside and the jobs and tax revenue it brings to help with City services for residents and visitors. The passage of AB 1321 will provide for its beneficial continuity.

Sincerely,

Esther Sanchez
MAYOR

Cc: Oceanside City Council
Assembly Member Tasha Boerner Horvath
Senator Patricia Bates