My name is Kevin Brown, and I am Chairman of the Mohegan Tribe.

I grew up in Montville, went to high school and played football there. I left Montville to attend West Point in 1983 and served my country for 24 years after graduation, and returned home in 2013 to see that nearly ten percent of the people in my hometown are no longer unemployed or dependent on the defense industry, but employed by Mohegan Sun.

I am here today with my counterpart, Mashantucket Pequot Chairman Rodney Butler, to talk to you about why and how Connecticut must take steps to compete with an $800 million gaming resort that will open five miles from our border in just two years.

For the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Chairman to appear here together today is a first. Our Tribes have a long history of fierce competition, and today, we are competitors in business.

But the competition on the horizon is threatening, and not just to us but to the state of Connecticut, that we are here to urge you to pass SB1090, An Act Concerning Gaming to protect thousands of jobs our two resorts employ. These jobs include world-class chefs, entertainment managers, dealers, hosts and many others in the hospitality, food & beverage and gaming industry who provide service to the 50,000 patrons who visit our two resorts every day.

There have been a lot of questions about this legislation since it was announced last week. Are the jobs at Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods valuable enough to protect? Is the gaming industry approaching equilibrium? Will strategically placed alternative gaming entertainment sites appeal enough to consumers to bring in business and save jobs? And do the people of Connecticut really want alternative gaming sites in the state?

The short answer to all those questions is yes.

Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods are two of the most successful gaming resorts in the world ... in the world ... In addition to premier gaming floors at Mohegan Sun, we have some of the finest dining in New England and our entertainment Arena is recognized as one of the best in the country and the World. The reason for our

success at Mohegan Sun is our employees – many of whom have been with us since our doors opened in 1996. 75% have been with us more than 5 years, and 75% of our managers and supervisors have been promoted from within – this is an investment in human capital that is worthy of sustaining. People with livelihoods that come from an investment and commitment on their part, that they stand to lose. They are trained and experienced and the best at what they do. Without them, our business would not have achieved its' worlds best status and without them CT stands to lose significant contributors to our rich communities and our economy.

The gaming industry is changing. The number of gaming sites in New England has doubled in the past decade. Our success in Connecticut is exactly the reason other states are entering the gaming industry. And those states are now passing laws that will make them even more competitive with Connecticut. There are those who suggest that alone doesn't create a compelling reason to compete and that we should just realize that we're going to lose a portion of our business, jobs and state revenues to those states on our boundaries. Apparently those who take this position don't understand that in a competitive market approaching equilibrium, government really has no role other than to make the market more competitive – and that's what SB1090 does.

There will always be a market for gaming and entertainment. Why wouldn't Connecticut fight to remain competitive and successful, and to protect thousands of jobs for people who live, pay taxes and raise families here?

Mohegan Sun has been successful because we know our customers, and our employees provide the high quality service those customers want and have come to expect. While there will certainly be interest in the bright shiny object represented by new out-of-state casinos, the fact is that our customers understand and believe in brand loyalty. Given the opportunity to build strategically located alternative gaming sites New England's customers will come to enjoy the first class experience they've come to expect at Mohegan or Foxwoods at a convenient location.

And finally, I would ask you to look deeper at recent Quinnipiac Poll then the often quoted and singular response that suggest 75% don't see a need for another casino. According to that same poll, 62 percent of voters think gaming is good for Connecticut, and an even higher percentage, 68 percent, believe that it is better for gaming business and the jobs that gaming generates to stay here in the state. Let's look at ALL of the answers to the poll, not just the one answer that makes for an easy decision – and on that note, let's take into account the question about their number one concern – the overwhelming answer was jobs. Allowing the development of alternative gaming sites will preserve and create jobs.

The poll numbers tell me that the people of Connecticut consider the Tribes their partners, and that they support the industry, the economic development it promotes, and the thousands of jobs at Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods provide.

I would like to close my testimony by making the very clear statement that Mohegan Sun is not going anywhere, and in fact you may have seen recently we are fully engaged to meet and fight competition from MA, with significant new investments at our property at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville.

With or without this legislation, Mohegan Sun will survive. But by not passing SB1090 we will likely be forced to right size our business and eliminate thousands of jobs, and the impact will be significant on those great employees, not to mention our vendors from throughout the State and the other entertainment and tourist destinations in our region with whom our patronage is often shared.

If we do pass this legislation and Connecticut joins with the Mohegan – Pequot partnership we will not only protect those precious jobs but Connecticut can and will retain its place as New England's premier tourism destination. The decision is yours to make but we are here to tell you that we can help you help us protect Connecticut jobs and Connecticut revenue from the direct assault on our industry and our state by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and New York.