



THE CITY OF GROTON

Mayor Marian Galbraith

295 Meridian Street, Groton, CT 06340

(860) 446-4103 (860) 445-4058 FAX

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Testimony of Marian Galbraith, Mayor of the City of Groton, in support of **SB 1090, An Act Concerning Gaming**

On behalf of the City of Groton, I am pleased to provide testimony in favor of SB 1090. This act would authorize the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection to issue up to three gaming facility licenses to the Mohegan Pequot Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe to jointly establish and operate facilities in this state.

As the mayor of a nearby municipality, I understand the impact the current gaming facilities have on our economy. Likewise, I understand the role future gaming facilities will play in keeping jobs and revenue in Connecticut.

Many of the residents of the City of Groton are employed at Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods Resort and Casino. They and their families pay taxes in our communities, their children attend our schools, they shop and spend their earnings at local businesses. The Mohegan Tribe and the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, because of these gaming facilities, are able to support countless community development initiatives. They also provide philanthropic support to non-profit organizations which provide human services, organizations which continually feel the sting of budget cuts. Numerous small businesses owe their success to their contracts with these facilities and the tourism they generate. Both Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun provide valuable revenue to our state, revenue which needs to be kept in this state.

At a time, when both the state and municipalities are struggling to balance budgets in light of dwindling revenues, we cannot afford to let competition in nearby states drain those revenues over state borders. A vote in support of SB 1090 is a vote to protect this valuable industry, preserve jobs, and enhance revenues. I urge you to support SB 1090.

Marian Galbraith
Mayor, City of Groton