

A LETTER FROM THE BARONA,
SYCUAN, AND VIEJAS TRIBES OF
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to place into the RECORD the results of a recent California statewide voter survey on Indian gaming. In the spring of this year, California tribes commissioned an independent research company, J. Moore Methods of Sacramento, to survey a cross-section of 1,000 registered voters across the State.

A letter from Clifford La Chappa, tribal chairman of the Barona Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Georgia Tucker, tribal chairperson of the Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay Indians, and Anthony Pico, tribal chairman of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, states:

We needed reliable data to begin to understand public attitudes towards all forms of gaming. An objective survey was crucial as an intentionally-biased study would have served no one. What we now have is a solid sampling of public opinion we can share with community and state leaders. Voters were clear in their message of support.

Sixty percent of the state's registered voters back Indian gaming with support reaching a hefty 73 percent in San Diego County.

The opinion poll also reveals voters do not believe tribal gaming needs further government regulation, and they are opposed to Nevada casino interests operating gaming facilities in California.

The findings show 82 percent of San Diegans support continued operation of Indian reservation casinos, compared to 75.9 percent support statewide.

Overall, 54.7 percent of California voters approve various forms of legalized gambling in contrast to 29.2 percent opposed, with 16 percent expressing no or mixed opinions.

These figures show the general public favors reservation gaming to such an extent that politicians who are against Indians using gaming to improve economic conditions are not listening to the people.

Survey findings show 58 percent of California voters oppose Governor Pete Wilson's position not to negotiate gaming compacts with California tribes. In San Diego County, 57 percent of voters surveyed said they opposed the governor's position.

Seventy percent say they "do not feel" gambling in general required additional government regulation, and a majority of 50.3 percent expressed opposition to legislative restrictions on Indian reservation casino gaming.

By a 53 to 35 percent ratio, state voters also oppose expansion of legal gaming into new communities to compete with Indian reservation gaming. Californians agreed that the best place for new gambling facilities is on Indian reservations. This preference exceeded support for expanded gaming at race track (20.9%), additional card rooms (6.4%), and Nevada-style commercial casinos (15.1%).

Other survey findings included: 79 percent Republican men agree Indian gaming is good because it is eliminating welfare dependency among Indians.

85 percent of Republican women agree that Indians, not state governments, should be accountable for keeping tribal gaming free of corruption.

73 percent of Democratic women agree with the use of gaming revenue to improve life on the reservations.

California voters clearly are telling us that while they support gambling as a valid form of recreation, they feel it is best confined to certain areas. Voters support Indian gaming for two reasons: most facilities are located in relatively isolated rural areas, and Californians see gaming as the best opportunity Native Americans have to provide for their people and to secure a solid economic base for the future.

Reservation gaming is a fair play issue, in many respects. The public knows Indians have suffered in the past and that many continue to suffer the worst of all human statistics. Today the public can support reservation gaming because it takes nothing away from the larger population and gives tribes an even chance to become self-supporting. In fact, as you are already aware, reservation gaming in San Diego County and throughout the state creates jobs and significant economic benefits to the wider community."

SENIORS: FACES OF MEDICARE
AND MEDICAID

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on behalf of the Nation's seniors who will be devastated by the GOP-destruction of the Medicare Program. Just this morning, I heard from a number of elderly in my district who are extremely concerned about the cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. In fact, Mr. Eli Strinic said that he would like the opportunity to be on the floor to talk to the Congress himself. Well, on his behalf, and that of Mrs. Beatrice Waltoncarr, and thousands of other seniors, I would like to take this opportunity to share their specific concerns with my colleagues here on the floor.

Mr. Strinic and his wife are on Medicare. He has been seeing the same doctor for more than 15 years. In fact, he sees six different doctors. Mr. Strinic is extremely concerned about the proposed funding cuts and changes to Medicare.

He expressed opposition to the way the GOP-proposal would indirectly force seniors into managed care. Mr. Strinic is concerned that the quality of care will be restricted and that the cuts in nursing home care provided under Medicaid will devastate his family. He spoke about how he was bothered by the fact that a friend of his was not allowed to see a specialist outside his HMO plan.

With respect to Mrs. Beatrice Waltoncarr of Cleveland, OH, she spoke about the fact that the \$182 bill cut in Medicaid will make it impossible for her to make it. Just two prescriptions cost her more than \$100. In fact, while she was able to get the prescription to the drug store to have it refilled, she had to leave the medicine behind because she did not have the money to pay for it.

Mr. Strinic's and Mrs. Waltoncarr's concerns mirror those of hundreds of thousands of other seniors who must depend on Medicare and Medicaid for their health care services, and who will be forced to pay more for less under the GOP-Medicare proposal.

Our seniors must not be forced to worry about their health care coverage. They have worked long and hard to provide for their families and for a secure retirement—that security

must not be taken away. They deserve better than that. For the sake of our seniors, let's not allow the GOP to destroy Medicare.

TRIBUTE TO CASA ALLEGRA
COMMUNITY SERVICES

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Casa Allegra Community Services project. Casa Allegra was founded in 1975 and provides residential, job training, and community integration services to adults with disabilities. This important organization has been an instrumental component in the successful integration of Marin County's disabled adult population.

One part of the Casa Allegra's work on behalf of people with disabilities has been the Adult Community Service [ACS] program. The staff at ACS provide individualized support in employment, education, community integration as well as instruction in self-advocacy, communication, and behavioral skills. All ACS instruction is provided in the settings and contexts in which nondisabled adults participate. The goal of ACS is to team up with family members, coworkers, employers, classmates, and others to help people with disabilities succeed as productive, accepted members of the whole community.

It is this focus, one of integration coupled with a healthy respect for self determination, that makes the work of Casa Allegra so very valuable and so very important. Mr. Speaker, Marin County has been very fortunate to have Casa Allegra Community Services in its midst. This program is a model for the entire Nation.

TRIBUTE TO "GLORY GRADS,"
JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1935

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the most distinguished groups of students ever to attend New York City high school. They are members of the class of 1935 of James Madison School in Brooklyn who are coming from all parts of this land to mark the 60th anniversary of their commencement. The celebration will take place at the Stanley Kaplan Penthouse at Lincoln Center on November 12. The members of the class were named the "Glory Grads" by their teachers because of their outstanding achievements. The school was named after the fourth President of the United States, whose words are carved in stone above the entrance: "Education is the true foundation for civil liberty."

The Glory Grads attained the highest scholastic average in New York State that year and fielded a football team that won the city championship. "You are the cream and you will rise to the top," their grad advisor told them at graduation and they have fulfilled that prediction in a spectacular manner. Over the many years, they have achieved honors and

national distinctions in the fields of medicine and surgery, engineering, mathematics, journalism, business, and the arts. They were children of the Great Depression, who came mostly from poor families and had to struggle to get on the first rung of the ladder of achievement. But, they were inspired by family tradition to study and work hard and, therefore, to go on to self-made success.

These Glory Grads never forgot the opportunities they were given by the country to which their parents came as immigrants. They have paid their dues many times over. The great majority of male class members served in World War II. They made their way up in professional and business careers. They also became leaders in community and civic organizations and have been unusually generous in their philanthropies.

I wish to extend special congratulations and felicitations to the chairman of the reunion committee, Stanley H. Kaplan, a friend of long standing and founder of the international chain of test-prep centers that bears his name. I congratulate, too, the members of the reunion committee, including Marty Glickman, famed sportscaster and hero of the Madison Gridiron and track oval; Martin Abramson, prize-winning author and war correspondent; businessmen Winn Heimer and Sidney Thomsahower, and travel consultant Anita Foran Fine.

I salute "Mr. Basketball Coach," Jammy Moskowitz, a spry 92, who will be making the trip from Florida to New York to attend the reunion. I also salute Principal Wendy Karp and director of alumni relations, Sonya Lerner, without whose cooperation, this return to James Madison would not have been successful.

I salute the Glory Grads. May they have many years of good health, happiness, and continued friendship.

AMERICAN CIVILIZATION TAKES A GIANT STEP BACKWARD

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, movement toward universal health care coverage was the centerpiece of the Clinton health plan during the 103d session of Congress. Concern with the achievement of that ideal generated great complexity in the proposal prepared by the administration. It was a noble plan in pursuit of a most compassionate purpose. Among the industrialized nations our Government stands almost alone in its refusal to sponsor universal health care coverage. In this 104th Congress the majority has chosen to catapult our American civilization further backward and away from the health care coverage of the poor provided by the Medicaid entitlement. To end the provision of health care for the poorest Americans would be a barbaric act. Nevertheless the plan for this heartless public deed is going forward.

If the Republican health care bill is passed thousands of Americans who now have health care coverage will lose it. The Republicans are giving notice to the uncovered that when the Declaration of Independence declared that all men have a right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" it did not mean them.

This mean and extreme position cannot be accepted. The tree of life must be allowed to bloom for every human soul. Attached is a summary of the notice that the Republicans are sending to the uncovered.

REPUBLICAN NOTICE TO THE UNCOVERED

Health and happiness
The majority can pursue
But the tree of life
We won't let bloom for you
The medicine
Modern miracles make
Not available for your sake
A dose of penicillin
Cost less than a penny
With no HMO
You don't get any
Why should the government
Pay everybody's doctor bills
Only the evil poor
Contract expensive ills
Drugs cost dollars
The uncovered can't pay
On this beautiful earth
Not everybody
Is scheduled to stay
Health and happiness
The majority can pursue
But the tree of life
We won't let bloom for you
Your days of strife
Our policies renew
O say can you see
Your liberty to die free
From heavenly hospitals
Mothers hustle your
Discharged babies home quick
Abuse will be charged
If you let them get sick
For the elderly
It is wise to stay well
Unregulated nursing homes
Will be harder than hell
Health and happiness
The majority can pursue
But the tree of life
We won't bloom for you.

BRIDGEHAMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT 100TH ANNIVERSARY REMARKS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to congratulate the men and women of the Bridgehampton Fire Department for 100 years of dedicated service to the people of Bridgehampton. The residents of the Bridgehampton Fire District are very fortunate to have such a well-trained and devoted fire department. The Bridgehampton Fire Department worked hard to establish itself as one of the best departments in New York and has achieved an impeccable record.

The success of the fire department is a direct result of the selfless dedication and effective management displayed by its members. Under the leadership of Chairman Clifford Foster, the fire department has continued to play an active role in the life of the Bridgehampton community. This leadership umbrella extends to the other members of the board of fire commissioners: William Babinski, Howell H. Topping, Fred Wilford and James McCaffrey, as well as the loyalty and hard work exemplified by Chief Officer John O'Brien, First Assistant Robert Comfort and

Second Assistant Richard Thare. The Bridgehampton Fire Department consists of more than 100 professional volunteer firefighters, containing no paid employees, offering further evidence of their passion and commitment to the community they serve.

On Saturday, June 17, 1995, the Bridgehampton Fire Department celebrated its 100th anniversary with a parade, marking a long proud history by recognizing and honoring the efforts of those who have sacrificed and served the department and community over the years. Therefore Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask the rest of the House to join me in congratulating this all-volunteer fire department on achieving this momentous milestone. This is a much-deserved tribute and I wish them all the best on their day of recognition and glory. They give of themselves because of the love and pride they share for their community and we applaud their extraordinary service and efforts. These courageous individuals have truly earned this recognition. May they continue to serve their community for the many hundred years to come.

MALONEY HONORS GEORGE DELIS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful event that will be taking place in my district this weekend.

On Saturday, October 14th the Broadway-Astoria Merchants & Professionals Association will be holding their 15th Annual Dinner Dance. This year's dinner dance will pay tribute to Mr. George Delis as the Association's Man of the Year.

The life of George Delis is one of those classic American success stories. Born in Greece in 1945, George's parents left Greece to move to the United States when George was still very young. In 1962, the entire Delis family moved from Manhattan to the Astoria section of Queens, and they still live there today. I am proud to represent this wonderful community in the U.S. Congress.

George Delis' contributions to Queens are well known throughout the community. After graduation from college, George was hired by the Youth Services Agency as a youth counselor. This marked the beginning of a life devoted to helping out both those in need and the community in which he lives.

In 1974, George was appointed to Community Board 1, and was hired as district manager of the board in 1977. George wrote the proposal for the Motion Picture Museum and has worked for the development of the Steinway Industrial area, which in turn became the single largest industrial development in Queens.

In addition, George has played a large part in the organization of the Greater Astoria Historical Society, the 30th Avenue Merchants Association, and the Colon Council. He is married to Terri Angelis, a public school teacher from Forest Hills.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending George.