

STATE OF MINNESOTA

970339 OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SAINT PAUL 55155

January 30, 1995

The Honorable Charles A. Berg State Senator Room 328 State Capitol 75 Constitution Avenue St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Phyllis Kahn State Representative 367 State Office Building 100 Constitution Avenue St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Berg and Representative Kahn:

This report is submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 3.9221, subdivision 5 (1994), which provides:

[t]he governor, the attorney general and the governor's designated representatives shall report to the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over gambling regulation . . . [t]his report shall contain information on compacts, negotiated, and an outline of prospective negotiations.

The Tribal-State Compact Negotiating Committee ("Committee") received no requests to negotiate or amend the compacts in 1994. However, as discussed in last year's report, the Committee was informed of a technical amendment to the blackjack compact of the Upper Sioux Community and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The technical amendment allows for the play of blackjack with non-bordered cards. Prior to the technical amendment, all tribes were required to use at least bordered cards. The purpose in seeking the technical amendment was to allow for hetter oversight and detection of card marking. It is easier to detect card marking with non-bordered cards. Because of this oversight, the Upper Sioux Community and the Shakopee Mdewakanton requested the technical amendment and the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety agreed.

The Minnesota State Legislature required the Governor take all feasible steps to renegotiate all compacts negotiated under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.9221, for the purpose of establishing a minimum age of 21 years for participating in gambling authorized under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. 1994 Minn. Laws Ch. 633, Art. 7, § 6. The Governor initiated correspondence with the tribal chairpersons of the 11 Minnesota Indian communities and responses are forthcoming.

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Senator Daniel Inouye. Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, and Senator John McCain, Vice Chair of that committee, introduced a bill June 23, 1994, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. In August, a substitute amendment was prepared by the Committee as a discussion draft. It appears that Senators Inouye and McCain intend to allow interested parties to comment on the bill, consider the comments, and prepare a measure for introduction in January 1995.

ARNE CARLSON
Governor

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY III
Attorney General

TARRY W BALTZER Chair, Tribal-State Compact Negotiating Committee



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