

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**FROM:** Supervisors Ashley and Wilson

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** August 23, 2005

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2005-421 SUPPORTING SB288 TO RESTORE THE \$20 MILLION APPROPRIATION FROM THE SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION FUND (SDF) TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

That the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution No. 2005-421 supporting SB288 that would restore the \$20 million appropriation from the Special Distribution Fund (SDF) to local governments and direct the Executive Office and the Board's Sacramento representatives to further the Board's position.

**BACKGROUND:**

A Special Distribution Fund (SDF) was created as a result of the 1999 tribal-state Compacts. The SDF is designed to assist local governments with impacts created by tribal gaming operations and permits cities and counties to apply for these grant monies. The SDF is fully financed by 26 tribal governments that operated more than 200 gaming devices as of September 1, 1999. In order to receive SDF monies, eligible agencies must comply with the guidelines of SB621.

Local governments and agencies throughout Riverside County have used the SDF funds to purchase two new fire engines, build a fire station, purchase various police and sheriff's vehicles, hire police officers and deputy sheriffs, establish a special prosecution unit within the District Attorney's office to prosecute casino crimes, improve interchanges and road conditions that relieve traffic congestion, and to support many other programs designed to ease the impact of gaming in the county.

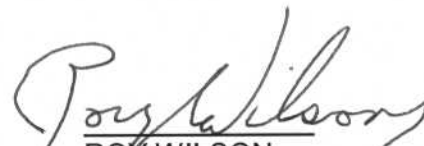
The Legislature appropriated \$50 million from the SDF in the FY 2005/06 State Budget to local governments impacted by tribal gaming operations.

The Governor's Office was misinformed that reports from eligible counties were not submitted to the Legislature and other state agencies as required by SB 621. The Governor subsequently reduced the SDF appropriation by \$20 million. This unsubstantiated reduction of SDF monies will cost Riverside County \$8.5 million in funding for FY 2005/06.

Senator Jim Battin and Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia probed the matter and found that Riverside County and nearly all of the other eligible counties submitted the requisite reports in a timely manner. Since then Senators Jim Battin and Denise Ducheny have introduced SB 288 to restore the \$20 million appropriation from the SDF to local governments.

The Board should adopt Resolution No. 2005-421 to support SB288 and urge state legislators to restore the \$20 million appropriation from the SDF.

  
MARION ASHLEY  
5<sup>TH</sup> District Supervisor

  
ROY WILSON  
4<sup>TH</sup> District Supervisor

1 **Board of Supervisors**

**County of Riverside**

2  
3 Resolution No. 2005-421  
4 Supporting SB 288 to Restore the \$20 million Appropriation from the  
5 Special Distribution Fund (SDF) to Local Governments

6 **WHEREAS**, eleven federally recognized Indian tribes are located within Riverside County; and  
7 **WHEREAS**, after many years of negotiations with the state of California, 61 federally  
8 recognized tribes, including 10 tribes within Riverside County entered into their tribal-state compacts in  
9 September 1999; and in 2003, the eleventh Riverside County tribe entered into a tribal-state compact; and

10 **WHEREAS**, a Special Distribution Fund (SDF) created by the 1999 Compacts, is designed to  
11 assist local governments with impacts generated by tribal gaming operations, permitting cities and  
12 counties to apply for grant monies; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the SDF is fully financed by 26 tribal governments that operated more than 200  
14 gaming devices as of September 1, 1999; and

15 **WHEREAS**, it is estimated that tribal governments throughout the Inland Region will pay most  
16 of the revenues into the SDF, approximately \$1 billion through the life of the compacts; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the 1999 Compacts and state law provide that the SDF is to be used for various  
18 public uses, including local governments and special districts impacted by tribal government gaming,  
19 gambling addiction programs, and reimbursement to the Division of Gambling Control and the California  
20 Gambling Control Commission for regulatory costs, and providing revenues for non-gaming tribes; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 2003, a diverse coalition of local government representatives, including  
22 Riverside County, and tribal members of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations joined together  
23 to draft legislation designed to establish a fair formula and procedures to return SDF revenues to local  
24 governments throughout the State impacted by tribal gaming operations; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature passed and the governor signed into law SB 621 (Burton/Battin);  
and

**WHEREAS**, local governments and agencies throughout Riverside County have used the SDF  
funds previously obtained by complying with the guidelines of SB 621 to purchase two new fire engines,  
build a fire station, purchase various police and sheriff's vehicles, hire police officers and deputy sheriffs,  
establish a special prosecution unit within the District Attorney's office to prosecute casino crimes,  
improve interchanges and road conditions that relieve traffic congestion, and to support many more  
programs designed to ease the impact of gaming in the county; and

**WHEREAS**, Riverside County has received a total of \$22.9 million from the SDF thus far; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature appropriated \$50 million from the SDF in the FY 2005/06 State  
Budget to local governments impacted by tribal government gaming operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Office was misinformed that reports from eligible counties were not  
submitted to the Legislature and other state agencies as required by SB 621 and the Governor  
subsequently reduced the SDF appropriation by \$20 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Jim Battin and Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia probed the matter and  
found that Riverside County and nearly all of the other eligible counties submitted the requisite reports in  
a timely manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the unsubstantiated reduction of SDF monies will cost Riverside County \$8.5  
million in the FY 2005/06; and

**WHEREAS**, Senators Jim Battin and Denise Ducheny have introduced SB 288 to restore the \$20  
million appropriation from the SDF to local governments;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors of Riverside  
County in regular session on August 23, 2005 supports SB 288 and urges the State to restore this critical  
funding to local governments throughout California.