



**SYDNEY MURPHY**

**COUNTY JUDGE**

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Senator Robert Nichols  
Texas State Senate District 3  
P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Senator Nichols,

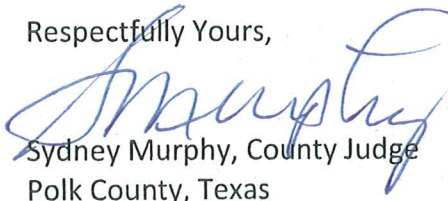
Polk County is deeply committed to the economic development of our region and the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe is a valued and respected partner of local government in this endeavor. We are pleased to lend support to Tribal efforts to enhance business and tourism, including the business of gaming on Reservation land when supported by the majority of voters.

The impact of tribal gaming operations on surrounding communities has proven positive in other areas of the country, as well as in our own County in the recent past. Historically, the Polk County Commissioners Court has supported Tribal gaming efforts, by election. We are confident that this could, again, be an important economic instrument in our region, as a gaming operation will grow the Tribe's economy significantly, expand opportunities for Tribal families and foster economic development throughout Polk County and the region.

The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe maintains a record of integrity and respect in its interaction with our regional communities. Long-term alliances have set a solid precedent of mutual trust and respect between the Tribe and local governments, bringing with it widespread community support for the Tribe's investment in our growth.

In cooperation with our efforts to strengthen economic opportunities in our area of East Texas, Polk County is pleased to lend its support for legislation that would allow the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe to conduct gaming on Reservation Land if approved in an election for that purpose and we urge you to support the passage of such legislation.

Respectfully Yours,

  
Sydney Murphy, County Judge  
Polk County, Texas