



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Menominee tribe has proposed a casino in  
3 Kenosha, Wisconsin, that will be an \$808 million facility with  
4 3,200 gambling positions; and

5 WHEREAS, A large portion of the casino's customers will be  
6 Lake County residents, but all of the tax revenue, jobs, and  
7 other benefits from the casino will inure to the benefit of  
8 Kenosha, Kenosha County, and Wisconsin; and

9 WHEREAS, The Menominee have indicated that they will  
10 employ, on a priority basis, Kenosha and Southeastern Wisconsin  
11 citizens, leaving out hard-working Illinois residents; and

12 WHEREAS, The social costs from problem gambling will fall  
13 very heavily on those Illinois communities closest to the  
14 casino, but no funds will be made available to the State of  
15 Illinois or local governments in Illinois to address the impact  
16 of problem gambling; the result will be that Illinois citizens  
17 will be compelled to pay for problems caused by a Wisconsin  
18 casino; and

19 WHEREAS, The Menominee Tribe expects gamblers at the  
20 casino, most of whom will be from Illinois, to lose over \$400  
21 million a year; and

22 WHEREAS, When Illinois citizens gamble with their  
23 discretionary dollars, they will have less money to spend on  
24 dining, entertainment, shopping, and sporting events in Lake  
25 County and elsewhere in Illinois; this casino will adversely  
26 affect the livelihood of countless small businesses in  
27 Illinois; and

28 WHEREAS, The casino project will greatly increase traffic  
29 on our already heavily traveled Illinois roads; this will have

1 the greatest adverse affect on the environment of Lake County  
2 through increased air emissions and water runoff; and

3 WHEREAS, While these impacts will undoubtedly take place,  
4 the Bureau of Indian Affairs chose first in its scoping  
5 document and in its Draft Environmental Impact Statement to  
6 totally ignore these serious negative impacts on the Illinois  
7 communities near the casino; in fact, the Draft Environmental  
8 Impact Statement does not even discuss these negative impacts;  
9 not only is this wrong, but this approach violates the Bureau  
10 of Indian Affairs's own policies; and

11 WHEREAS, Under Part 2 of the Bureau of Indian Affairs's  
12 Checklist for Gaming Acquisitions (Section 20(b)(1)(A), found  
13 at page 7, issued in March of 2005), units of local government  
14 located within 10 miles of the proposed gaming establishment  
15 are to be included in the analysis of significant detriments  
16 that may be incurred by local governments; Lake County and many  
17 of its communities are a mere 6 miles from the site of the  
18 proposed Menominee Casino; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
20 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
21 the members of the House of Representatives respectfully urge  
22 that the Menominee Draft Environmental Impact Statement be  
23 revised to include northern Illinois and that a public hearing  
24 be held in Illinois to assess the impact on Illinois of this  
25 proposed project; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
27 presented to the Menominee Tribe, the members of the Illinois  
28 Congressional Delegation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs as  
29 an expression of our concerns.