

Subject: Tribal compacts signed
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Compact ratifications acknowledge tribal sovereignty, strengthen relationship with state

SACRAMENTO—Gov. Gavin Newsom recently approved ratification of tribal compacts with Table Mountain and Tule River. Assemblymember James C. Ramos (D-San Bernardino) authored the bills.

"I thank Gov. Newsom for approving ratification of the tribal compacts that play a key role in the self-sufficiency of the two tribes and their ability to invest in public health, safety and infrastructure," Ramos said.

AB 2656 ratifies the tribal-state gaming compact between the State of California and Table Mountain Rancheria. Tribal chairperson Michelle Heredia-Cordova stated, "Table Mountain Rancheria would like to acknowledge and thank Assemblymember Ramos for the leadership, strength and tenacity he demonstrated in authoring Table Mountain Rancheria's newest 25-year compact. It was not an easy process. We are also pleased that the governor has signed the compact and thank him as well." Heredia-Cordova added, "This compact allows Table Mountain Rancheria to continue providing economic sustainability for our tribe and economic development for the region. We will continue to invest in our cultural heritage, invest in the greater community as we have for decades, and build upon an environment where our tribe can flourish for generations to come."

AB 3276 ratifies the tribal-state gaming compact between the State of California and the Tule River Indian Tribe of California. Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation Chairperson Charmaine McDarment said, "Tule River Tribe's gaming enterprises go directly toward housing and infrastructure, health care, education, and other basic needs for our people. They allow us to rebuild after surviving the atrocities of colonization. Our casino provides some of the best jobs in a high-poverty region of the state, in Tulare County, including excellent health care benefits for many hundreds of employees."

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Assemblymember James C. Ramos proudly represents the 45th Assembly district that includes the Cities of Fontana, Highland, Mentone, Redlands, Rialto and San Bernardino. He is the first and only California Native American serving in the state's legislature. Ramos chairs the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #6 on Public Safety.