

Update #59

The views, opinions and commentary in this update are those of Congressman Red Corn. They are his alone, and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Osage Nation Congress.

Commerce Committee processes bills and Plan of Operation

The Commerce and Economic Development Committee met in Executive Session yesterday to consider aspects of the Gaming Plan of Operation for FY2009. Three components of the plan were recommended to the Congress for approval by a unanimous vote by Congresspersons Red Eagle, Red Corn, Supernaw, and Shackelford. Congressman Simms was absent.

Also passed out with a “do pass” recommendation (and a unanimous vote) was a \$3 million initial capital contribution to the Osage Nation’s wholly-owned LLC. If passed, this will be the first serious effort at business diversification. We have invested over \$70 million in gaming so far.

Three of the five nominees for the LLC Board were confirmed last week and two were not confirmed. It is expected that Chief Gray will nominate the other two Board members as interim appointees. Those appointees may only serve until the end of the next regular session unless they are also confirmed by the Congress.

As these bills and resolutions are being considered and approved so late in the session, they will most likely not make it out – we have only one more day to meet (Thursday). It is possible a special session will be called in order to complete the process.

As always, your comments and thoughts are welcome. Please feel free to contact me at any time to share your thoughts on the issues facing the Osage Nation.

With respect,

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