



June 11th 2024

House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee,

As President of the Marksville Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our strong support for the Carcieri Fix bill (H.R. 1208). This legislation is crucial for the sustained economic development and growth of tribal communities, and it holds significant positive implications for our broader community in Marksville and the surrounding regions.

Chairman Pierite's upcoming testimony on June 26th is a pivotal moment for highlighting the far-reaching benefits that tribal economic initiatives, such as our local casino, bring to our community. The economic contributions of the tribal enterprises extend beyond the boundaries of tribal lands, creating jobs, fostering local business growth, and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

The Marksville Chamber of Commerce has witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of tribal economic development. The casino has become a cornerstone of our local economy, providing employment opportunities for hundreds of individuals, including many non-tribal members. These jobs offer stable incomes, benefits, and professional growth opportunities, which are vital for the economic stability of our community.

Additionally, the casino and other tribal enterprises contribute significantly to the local tax base. These contributions support public services such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure improvements, benefiting all residents of our region. The presence of the casino has also spurred the growth of ancillary businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and retail establishments, further diversifying and strengthening our local economy.

In conclusion, the Marksville Chamber of Commerce fully supports Chairman Pierite's testimony and the passage of H.R. 1208. We urge the Subcommittee and Congress to recognize the



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substantial and positive impact that tribal economic development has on our community and to support the Carcieri Fix bill.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Melissa Goudeau

President

Marksville Chamber of Commerce

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