

Susie Luce

**From:** Cliff Goodin <cliffgoodin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2019 2:49 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Cc:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikkii.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Subject:** Casino Rules Racing Commission

RECEIVED

FEB 18 2019

To: Chairman Lieblong and other Commissioners

BUREAU OF  
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

Thank you for your service to the State of Arkansas, Concerning the proposed casino rules I would like to express my opinion to as stated in paragraph 2.13.4(b) the rule that requires that a support letter for a proposed casino must come from a sitting county judge, Quorum court or mayor at the time the casino application is presented to the Racing Commission. I agree with this rule and recommend that this particular rule remain in place as written through this entire review process of the rules.

Sincerely  
Cliff Goodin  
River Valley Realty  
800 East Main Street  
Russellville, AR. 72801  
Cell 479-970-0215  
Office 479-968-6260  
Fax 479-967-6488

Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Susie Luce

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**From:** Sydna Daily <slldaily13@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 1:47 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbel@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rule #2

Hello,

I am Sydna Daily, mother, grandmother and retired kindergarten teacher. I have lived in Pope County for over 60 years. I have raised my children here in Pope County. Most of my grandchildren live in Pope County. It is a beautiful, friendly and wholesome place. My husband, Don was born and raised in Pope County. Except for the 3 years of coaching in Johnson County, he has lived here his whole life. He is a father, grandfather, retired teacher and coach, and a retired Justice of the Peace of Pope County.

We appreciate your time that you put in on serving on this commission. We think Rule #2 is GREAT. It is fair, clear, and makes perfect common sense. It lets the people of Pope County speak through our current elected officials. We hope you also take into consideration and will give weight to the voice of county voters in the application process.

Don and Sydna Daily

Susie Luce

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**From:** Joan Puckett <jlpuckett55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 10:09 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casinos

I am a resident of Pope County and very concerned about the possibility of having a casino in our county. I strongly support Rule #2 which covers the licensing process. Our current elected officials should represent the wishes of the voters. Also, I would respectfully ask the commission to give weight to the voice of the county voters in the application process.

Thank you,  
Joan Puckett

Susie Luce

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**From:** Eli Thomas <big\_ert8@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 9:05 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope Co rule #2-

To the members of the Racing Commission,

Please consider the following points and keep the original Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b). Do not accept the modified version and allow the letter of support for Gulfside Casinos to stand.

My permanent address is in Pope County. It is my hope to return to my hometown community following graduation from college and begin a career there-pending I am able to find a job in my field. It seems to be difficult these days. If not, chances are I will be relocating to an area where growth and progress are occurring.

The people of Arkansas voted and spoke. A casino will come to Pope County. This company has intentions to provide a high class resort, bring in additional activities, and provide jobs and growth for our area. I would hate to see a mediocre company build a casino here because we lost our chance at top notch one like the one Gulfside Casinos plans to build-River Valley Casinos. Young professionals like me want to see progress-in the state and in our communities. The game has started, please don't change the rules. Allow this process to be carried out in a timely manner. Time is money. Russellville, Pope County, and the state of Arkansas must have a boost and this company can provide one if we can look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. The horse racing/gaming activities in our state needs a boost. We have such a iconic attraction in Oaklawn and we need more quality racing.

Sincerely,

Elijah Thomas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Tori Thomas <torimarie18@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 3:57 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Please do not vote to accept rule #2

To the members of the Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do not vote to accept Rule #2.

I am a registered voter in Pope County with a permanent address there, however I am a grad student out of state. It is my hope to return to my hometown community in a few months upon graduation and begin a career there-pending I am able to find a job in my field. It seems to be difficult these days. If not, chances are I will be relocating to an area where growth and progress are occurring.

The people of Arkansas voted and spoke. A casino will come to Pope County. Gulfside Casinos has the intentions to provide a high-class resort, bring in additional activities, and provide jobs and growth for our area. By changing the rules, it would render the letters written in support of this company invalid and Gulfside Casinos could pull out all together. I would hate to see a mediocre company build a casino here because we lost our chance for a top notch one like the one Gulfside Casinos plans to build-River Valley Casinos.

Young professionals like me want to see progress-in the state and in our communities. The game has started, please don't change the rules. Allow this process to be carried out in a timely manner. Time is money.

Russellville, Pope County, and the state of Arkansas must have a boost and this company can provide one if we can look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. The horse racing/gaming activities in our state needs a boost. We have such an iconic attraction in Oaklawn and we need more quality racing.

Sincerely,

Victoria Thomas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Robin Thomas <rt3773@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:23 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Member of the Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that casinos will be placed in Pope County. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version. Russellville has a long history of resisting progress and change, but once it happens we embrace it.

I believe I am speaking for many when I say our vision of a casino coming to Pope Co was going to be what we see just across the borders of our state. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat mislead.

Now that all of this has come to light and much more public, I am learning in my ignorance I was misled on the local ordinance vote. It has been brought to my attention it reads..."majority of registered voters". I have to ask, has there even ever been "the majority of registered voters" vote in an election? If there was a vote today between God and the devil.....I don't think you would get the majority of the registered voters. Was this tactic used in the wording of the ordinance because they believed it was the only way to accomplish their goals?

Sincerely

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Robin Thomas

Susie Luce

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**From:** John Brown <irun@live.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 4:04 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino

My name is Johnny Brown. I am 63 years old. I own three businesses in Pope County.

First I would like to thank you for your service and the job you do. Seems like now days little respect or gratitude is given but I appreciate hard work so again, thanks.

I have lived in Pope County for about 48 yrs. Jim Gibson, our County Judge that just retired was the best Judge we have ever had in my opinion. I can honestly say I can not remember one time anyone had a negative thing to say about him either in person or in the press. We have enjoyed low tax rates along with excellent county services. Judge Gibson did not run for re-election, he retired. Mayor Randy Horton was a great Mayor and did lose his re-election bid.

Both of these men researched the casino options and had time to do so after the election. Both of these men had nothing to gain by recommending Gulfside Casino. They made decisions based on what was good for the future of the County and it's residents.

It is my understanding Gulfside would offer a million dollars a year for the next ten years in scholarship money. That there could be approx. 6 million a year in tax revenue. That they would limit hotel rooms and casino restaurants to encourage using existing local establishments and even a free shuttle to the downtown Russellville area so casino guests could shop and eat in local establishments. They were willing to Partner with us, with local businesses. Plus we would have the additional possibility of tourism dollars from not only the casino but the opening of other businesses that might be willing to a locatie here as well.

The minimum wage increase that passed will, in my opinion, kill any possibility of new industry in Arkansas or at least Pope County. The new jobs Gulfside would provide would help Pope County grow in so many ways I won't even try to list. I was told the Russellville School Superintendent contacted Gulfport and was told if we got a chance to get a Gulfside casino, to do it.

On the other hand we have the Indian casinos. I have family in Oklahoma that say the Indian casinos pretty much do nothing for local communities. That they might help pay for a small bridge or whatever but that we don't need them. I do not want an Indian Casino .

We have a new Judge and Mayor. They came out against the recommendations of the Judge and Mayor that were in office when the Casino Law was passed. I don't know this for a fact, but, I am concerned that we now have a new Judge that has no experience, that is from what I understand a friend of a guy that is a lobbyist for the Cherokee Casino. We have a local Senator that, from what I understand met with lobbyists for the Choctaw Casinos and then asked to get the rules changed. We have a new Mayor that seems to bring church into government. I don't know, this is all second and third hand but it worries that we had good men with experience and proven records that stuck their necks out to try to do what was best long term for our County. I wonder what we have now, as do others because there is no proven record to look at.

There is a group here called Citizens for a Better Pope County. Believe me, they represent a very small, opinionated group. Ironic that people like that can be seen in Oklahoma casinos gambling and drinking on a regular basis. I know because I employ one.

I respectfully ask that the rules not change and that the recommendation of former Judge Gibson and former Mayor Horton that Gulfside Casinos be allowed to operate in Pope County be upheld. We need the jobs.

Again, Thank you for your time.

Johnny Brown



Susie Luce

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**From:** Laura Brown <laurasuebrown@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 2:23 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Why Changing Rule 2 Will Damage Pope County

Hello,

My name is Laura Brown and I am a small business owner in Pope County. I have lived here my entire life and am also the daughter of another small business in our town. I am a proud member of our community and have always thought Russellville was a wonderful place to live. The only downfall to living in this beautiful town though, is the lack of growth. Unfortunately, every time any new business, development, or opportunity is introduced to this area, the same group of people block the proposal. I have watched this town try to block a Wal Mart Neighborhood Market, food trucks, multiple restaurants, and even an assisted living facility. We are a great community, but if we want to continue to grow, we have got to stop blocking all opportunities that could allow both growth and change.

Our previous mayor researched casinos all over the country. He spoke with groups from Las Vegas, Mississippi, and New Mexico. He researched statistics and spoke with other mayors, citizens, and casino employees. He wanted to ensure that even if he was not re-elected Russellville could receive a casino that best meets our needs as a community. To say they were properly vetted was an understatement. The previous County Judge who served us flawlessly for twenty years spoke with citizens across our town and chose to support this specific casino for the sake of growth for our businesses, schools, and entire economical infrastructure. Both officials did what the Constitution stated they should do regarding this casino. They didn't disregard our wishes, as citizens of Pope County, they did what Arkansans voted for, and supported a casino that would positively influence our community, surrounding communities, and our state. One small group of citizens from Russellville shouldn't have the power to change rules just because they do not like what the rules state. If they can do this, a precedent will be set that allows all rules and regulations in our Constitution to be questioned just because one political group isn't satisfied. This is truly unfair to all Arkansans who voted for a casino in Pope County and the thousands of citizens in Pope county who desperately need growth to continue to support themselves.

I know you are getting a lot of pressure from both sides, but as a small business owner I pray you are reading each of these emails and understanding that not all citizens of Pope County is against this casino. We desperately need growth, and if these rules are changed, and our previous Mayor and County Judge's letter are disregarded, that growth will simply not happen and our schools, our children, and our businesses will all suffer tremendously.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Laura Brown

479-970-0986

Susie Luce

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**From:** Judy Scott <thescotts83@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 1:05 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Arkansas Racing Commission Proposed Rules

I live in Russellville, Arkansas. I support Rule #2 regarding the licensing process for a casino which requires a casino applicant to have a letter of support from a CURRENT county judge or Quorum Court (and mayor if needed). It's fair, clear, and makes perfect common sense. It lets us, the voters, speak through our current elected officials.

I respectfully express my hope that the commission will also give weight to the voice of the county voters in the application process through our county ordinance.

Thank you.

Judy Scott

Susie Luce

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**From:** Ricky Hewitt <therickier@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 12:43 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Amendment 100 rules change

I wanted to voice my opinion about rule 2 amendment on issue 4 the casino deal. I'm all for a casino in pope county and i think it would be unfair to amend issue 4 when the people of Arkansas voted on it i work in pope county for 11 years and I'm from this area and I'm totally for the casino and i think the letters of support from Judge Gibson and lame duck mayor of Russellville should stand valid. The issue doesn't say that an out going judge cant send the letter of support. Changing the amendment would be going against the issue that was voted in. Pope county would be very lucky to have the River Valley Casino (Mississippi group) come in and create more jobs and tax revenue for the county and city. I know a lot of people here in pope county that feels the same way I do. I hope you guys dont make rule #2 stand. It would be unfair to the voters of Arkansas and Pope County. Thanks for your time.

Rick Hewitt  
Ricks iPhone

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 11:58 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Rule 2 change proposed by the Arkansas Racing Commission

Please see the comment below.

Thank you,  
**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** bentley hollingsworth <sil1tex@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 11:53 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Rule 2 change proposed by the Arkansas Racing Commission

“(n) The Arkansas Racing Commission shall require all casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, shall also require all casino applicants to include a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the applicant is proposing the casino to be located.”

That is what is in the Arkansas state constitution. That is what the state of Arkansas voted. Please do not use the modified Rule 2 that was proposed by the Arkansas Racing Commission.

I'm a lifelong horse racing fan. I've been to the Kentucky Derby 10 times. With the advent of sports betting and this week's ruling by the Department of Justice, Oaklawn will either be affected with less interstate gambling or the Federal government will pass Federal legislation that will nullify the attempt to limit sports betting in Arkansas to attendees of a physical casino.

Either outcome is Not good for Oaklawn and Not good for purse distributions for Oaklawn. Oaklawn NEEDS all the incentives to race at Hot Springs.

Arkansas NEEDS to allow a \$250+million casino to be built in Pope County in Arkansas. A county judge and a mayor have signed a letter of support.

That's what the constitution requires...

Bentley Hollingsworth

Lifelong horse racing fan from Russellville, Arkansas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Rule #2 change to Arkansas Racing Commission

**From:** bentley hollingsworth <sil1tex@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 11:52 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Rule #2 change to Arkansas Racing Commission

“(n) The Arkansas Racing Commission shall require all casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, shall also require all casino applicants to include a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the applicant is proposing the casino to be located.”

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I’m a lifelong horse racing fan. I’ve been to the Kentucky Derby 10 times. With the advent of sports betting and this week’s ruling by the Department of Justice, Oaklawn will either be affected with less interstate gambling or the Federal government will pass Federal legislation that will nullify the attempt to limit sports betting in Arkansas to attendees of a physical casino.

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Arkansas NEEDS to allow a \$250+million casino to be built in Pope County in Arkansas. A county judge and a mayor have signed a letter of support.

That’s what the constitution requires...

Bentley Hollingsworth

Lifelong horse racing fan from Russellville, Arkansas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Roger Fryar <rogerfryar@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 9:45 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rule 2 comments

Rule 2 comments

**From: Roger Fryar**  
**377 Sturgeon Circle**  
**Russellville, AR 72802**

**To: Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**1515 W 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Suite 505**  
**Little Rock, AR 72201**

Dears Sirs,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am a resident of Pope County.

The following are my comments concerning RULE 2.

#### 2.0 (Definitions)

I would recommend adding "Letter of Support" to the list of definitions. As a minimum, that letter should provide guidance as to the content to include:

- A clear, concise statement of support/endorsement,
  
- Rationale for decisions favoring one casino over other competitors including the disclosure of any specific proposals made by casinos that may have affected the decision.
  
- I would also suggest that "Resolution" (in reference to the Quorum Court) to be defined with direction as to what needs to be addressed in the resolution.

4.(b)

**General comment:**

**It is hard to discern in either a reading of Amendment 100 or this rule (that mirrors the Amendment) exactly what role the Quorum Court has in the decision-making process regarding a proposed casino. Under what circumstances would a Quorum Court's Resolution be used "in lieu" of a County Judge's Letter of Support?**

**The wording in Amendment 100 identifying the County Judge as the sole decision-maker in authoring the "Letter of Support" may overstep the executive powers identified in Amendment 55 effectively excluding the Quorum Court by use of the word "or" (versus "and").**

**It seems reasonable that the writers of Amendment 100 intended for there to be Quorum Court involvement and concurrence.**

**Perhaps the Attorney General's office or legislature could provide a clearer interpretation of this part of the law and provide the Racing Commission with some additional direction as it relates to this question. It seems likely the intent of the legislation was to include the Quorum Court as legitimate partners in the decision making process.**

**On a positive note, I strongly agree with the proposed rule as found in paragraph 2.13.4(b) which directly affects both Pope and Jefferson Counties. This paragraph requires a casino applicant to have a letter of support from a current county judge or Quorum Court (and mayor if needed). This part of Rule 2 is fair, clear, and makes perfect common sense.**

**Again, I appreciate the Racing Commission's work in this rule-making effort and its leadership particularly in light of this new law and the controversy in Pope County.**

**Sincerely,**

**Roger Fryar**

**Sent from my iPhone**

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:48 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Draft casino rules

**From:** Greg Harton <gharton@nwadg.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:46 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft casino rules

Ms. Langston,



Please forward me a current copy of the draft rules for casinos in Arkansas by responding to this email. Also, please pass along to those responsible within your agency that I would encourage them to post the draft rules to the Racing Commission website so that the public can access them easily. I appreciate your help.

Greg



**Greg Harton**  
Editorial Page Editor | [gharton@nwadg.com](mailto:gharton@nwadg.com)



479-872-5026 |  

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Susie Luce

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**From:** rmarktripp@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 9:22 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Cc:** 'R. Mark Tripp'  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations  
**Attachments:** County Resolution.pdf; City Resolution.pdf; 12-31-18 News Article.pdf

Arkansas Racing Commission-

Regarding the public comment period of proposed Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations, I would like to make the following comments:

1. The proposed and published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] is exactly as it should be, and I am in full support of.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

2. The voters of Pope County spoke very clear on November 6<sup>th</sup> regarding our community's intent of casino gaming and a local control ordinance. The Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.
3. With this email, I have attached 3 important and pertinent items related to a casino in Pope County: A resolution from the Pope County Quorum Court; A resolution from the Russellville City Council; A local news article from previous County Judge regarding his opinion and intention of a letter his office issues prior to the end of 2018. It is very clear that both governing bodies, the county and the city, were not in favor of a local casino without a binding vote of the local residents. It is also clear that the previous County Judge that issued 'a letter' made a public declaration that the intent of his letter was not to be considered a letter of support as required in the Casino Amendment and therefore should not be considered as such by anyone.
4. Trying to use letters of support from elected officials not in office when the application process initiates and actually begins makes no sense and should not be allowed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated!

Thanks,  
R. Mark Tripp  
Pope County Registered Voter

Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Pope County Casino Support

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jason McGee <jmcgee25@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 20, 2019 11:12 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>; racing mailbox <racing.mailbox@dfa.arkansas.gov>; Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino Support

> Good morning,

>

> As a citizen, employee, and property owner in Russellville, AR, I want to express my opinion on our local casino situation. I am fully in support of the casino coming to russellville/pope county. Please accept the current support letters from Jim Ed Gibson and Randy Horton.

>

> It is worth noting, the opposition of this is the same small group of people that have tried to stop all progress in our city for many years. The lawsuit filed against our current elected officials is a good example of the years and years of this same type of effort to keep russellville a small town. This same SMALL group of people have also tried to stop construction of our Walmart Neighborhood Market, Arbors Assisted Living Facility, Red Lobster, Caseys General Store, Arkansas Nuclear One, etc. They will always work to get certain church groups excited and file bogus law suits in order to create a mirage that the masses are behind them. When, in fact, a very small amount of people agree with them. The sad part is that only a small percentage of our local area actually gets out and votes. But, given the large outcry on social media and local media outlets, its apparent that a very large majority disagrees and wants the casino here and the progress it will bring.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

>

> Jason McGee  
> Russellville, AR

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Pope Co Rule #2-

**From:** Eli Thomas <big\_ert8@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 9:04 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope Co Rule #2-

To the members of the Racing Commision,

Please consider the following points and keep the original Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b). Do not accept the modified version and allow the letter of support for Gulfside Casinos to stand.

My permanent address is in Pope County. It is my hope to return to my hometown community following graduation from college and begin a career there-pending I am able to find a job in my field. It seems to be difficult these days. If not, chances are I will be relocating to an area where growth and progress are occurring.

The people of Arkansas voted and spoke. A casino will come to Pope County. This company has intentions to provide a high class resort, bring in additional activities, and provide jobs and growth for our area. I would hate to see a mediocre company build a casino here because we lost our chance at top notch one like the one Gulfside Casinos plans to build-River Valley Casinos.

Young professionals like me want to see progress-in the state and in our communities. The game has started, please don't change the rules. Allow this process to be carried out in a timely manner. Time is money.

Russellville, Pope County, and the state of Arkansas must have a boost and this company can provide one if we can look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. The horse racing/gaming activities in our state needs a boost. We have such a iconic attraction in Oaklawn and we need more quality racing.

Sincerely,

Elijah Thomas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** FW: Casinos

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joan Puckett <[jlpuckett55@gmail.com](mailto:jlpuckett55@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2019 9:44 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casinos

I am a resident of Pope County and very concerned about the possibility of having a casino in our county. I want to express my support of Rule #2 which covers the licensing process. Our current officials should be our voice. Also, I would respectfully ask the commission to consider the wishes of county voters in the application process.

Thank you,  
Joan Puckett

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** FW: Pope County Casino

**From:** John Brown <irun@live.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 3:17 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino

Good Afternoon,  
For what it's worth:

My name is Johnny Brown. I am 63 years old. I own three businesses in Pope County. I am not a gambler. My family has lived in Pope County for decades.

First I would to say thank you for taking time to read this and for the hard work that you do on behalf of the citizens of Arkansas. I realize that the decisions you make are sometimes hard and that people can be harsh. Having said that I would like to respectfully submit some thoughts concerning having a Casino and who decides it in Pope County.

Jim Gibson was the best County Judge we ever had to my recollection. Our real estate taxes are some of the lowest in the State yet we have enjoyed excellent County services under his administration. I cannot, recall one single complaint or issue ever being brought up about the way he did his job, ever. I know that he spent a lot of time weighing what would be right for Pope County concerning having a casino here. Mr Gibson considered the various casino operators and recommended Gulfside because of what they had to offer to the community and the fact that they would enhance rather than hurt the county. His decision was not made off the cuff nor taken lightly because in this, just like all the decisions he had made for the county in the past, he wanted to do what was best for the residents.

I lived in Oklahoma 45 years ago, still have family there. The Cherokee and Quapaw casinos, I am told, contribute little if anything other than an occasional token contribution for a bridge or whatever. My family there had nothing positive to say about them. Gulfside is different. It is my understanding that they intend to do as much business locally as possible. They are offering a million dollar a year scholarship for education, they have said that there would only be a small amount of Casino hotel rooms and restaurants so that they would not compete with the ones here now. I even heard they were planning to run a shuttle from the casino to downtown Russellville so people could eat at local restaurants and visit local stores etc without having to deal with parking and so forth. I was told the Superintendent of Russellville Schools contacted the Gulfport School Superintendent and was told that if we got a chance to get Gulfside, to do it. That they had helped the school there tremendously.

Thanks to the minimum wage law passing we will have no new growth in this State in my opinion, especially in Russellville. So the casino jobs would be even more important plus all the growth that would stem from tourism. I see no negative to Gulfside but I do the Indian casinos. One will better our county, the other will bring nothing in my humble opinion and I think that is what Judge Gibson decided.

Judge Gibson did not run for re-election. had he done so, I am sure he would have easily won. We now have a judge that has no experience as a judge. I was told Gulfside could bring in approx. 6 million a year in revenue for the county.

I also heard our New Judge wants to raise our millage rate. Old Judge was trying to keep our County solvent without raising taxes, new one wants to raise them instead of helping bring in millions of new revenue. Who sounds the smartest ? In my opinion we may have a bias as I have heard that the new Judge is friends with a lobbyist for the Cherokee Casinos. We have a local State Senator that, from what I understand asked for a rule change etc after meeting with lobbyist from the Choctaw Casino people. That could all be a coincidence . We have a new mayor that doesn't seem to understand that there is supposed to be something called separation of church and State . Had this all happened in a year when we would have kept the mayor and judge that were in office when this all came about, there would be no issue.

What I see is that we had a mayor and judge that did the work and wanted the best for the city and county. What I see now is that we may have self serving people that are more interested in what is good for them instead of the county. I ask that the recommendations Judge Gibson and Mayor Horton made before leaving office be honored as I feel they had nothing to gain whereas I could not say the same for the current politicians we have. Again, Gibson and Horton had nothing to gain except to leave a legacy of trying to help the citizens of Pope County;

Funny, about half the people that I have heard say bad things about having a casino here drive to Oklahoma and elsewhere to gamble and drink on a regular basis including some of those people that call themselves Citizens for a Better Pope County. Term hypocrite comes to mind. People are starting to hear the benefits, the tax numbers and so forth and are now wanting to know why we stand to lose this opportunity to another county. Please understand, Citizens for a Better Pope County represents the opinion of a very small group of people and not the whole of Pope County.

Opinions are cheap, but these are mine. All I know about the above is second and third hand information and it may not be 100% accurate but I have a feeling its not far off. I do business with both Pope County and the City of Russellville and could stand to lose thousands in income if the new Mayor or Judge were to read this letter or be told the contents but like our former Judge and Mayor, I will take my licks if I have too in order to stand up for what I think will be good for my friends, family and the county I live in.

Again, thank you so much for your time and service.  
Respectfully

Johnny Brown

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:11 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Rule #2-NO to modified version. Pope Co

**From:** Robin Thomas <rt3773@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:21 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Rule #2-NO to modified version. Pope Co

Member of the Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that casinos will be placed in Pope County. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version. Russellville has a long history of resisting progress and change, but once it happens we embrace it.

I believe I am speaking for many when I say our vision of a casino coming to Pope Co was going to be what we see just across the borders of our state. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat misled.

Now that all of this has come to light and much more public, I am learning in my ignorance I was misled on the local ordinance vote. It has been brought to my attention it reads..."majority of registered voters". I have to ask, has there even ever been "the majority of registered voters" vote in an election? If there was a vote today between God and the devil.....I don't think you would get the majority of the registered voters. Was this tactic used in the wording of the ordinance because they believed it was the only way to accomplish their goals?

Robin Thomas

Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:18 AM  
**To:** Byron; Freeland; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** FW: Pope Co casino-leave rule #2 as originally written

**From:** Robin Thomas <rt3773@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:19 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope Co casino-leave rule #2 as originally written

Member of the Arkansas Racing Commission committee,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that casinos will be placed in Pope County. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version. Russellville has a long history of resisting progress and change, but once it happens we embrace it.

I believe I am speaking for many when I say our vision of a casino coming to Pope Co was going to be what we see just across the borders of our state. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat misled.

Now that all of this has come to light and much more public, I am learning in my ignorance I was misled on the local ordinance vote. It has been brought to my attention it reads..."majority of registered voters". I have to ask, has there even ever been "the majority of registered voters" vote in an election? If there was a vote today between God and the devil....I don't think you would get the majority of the registered voters. Was this tactic used in the wording of the ordinance because they believed it was the only way to accomplish their goals?

Sincerely,

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Robin Thomas



Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:22 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** FW: Pope County Needs this Casino

**From:** Laura Brown <laurasuebrown@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 2:15 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope County Needs this Casino

Dear Mr. Campbell,

My name is Laura Brown and I am a small business owner in Pope County. I have lived here my entire life and am also the daughter of another small business in our town. I am a proud member of our community and have always thought Russellville was a wonderful place to live. The only downfall to living in this beautiful town though, is the lack of growth. Unfortunately, every time any new business, development, or opportunity is introduced to this area, the same group of people block the proposal. I have watched this town try to block a Wal Mart Neighborhood Market, food trucks, multiple restaurants, and even an assisted living facility. We are a great community, but if we want to continue to grow, we have got to stop blocking all opportunities that could allow both growth and change.

Our previous mayor researched casinos all over the country. He spoke with groups from Las Vegas, Mississippi, and New Mexico. He researched statistics and spoke with other mayors, citizens, and casino employees. He wanted to ensure that even if he was not re-elected Russellville could receive a casino that best meets our needs as a community. To say they were properly vetted was an understatement. The previous County Judge who served us flawlessly for twenty years spoke with citizens across our town and chose to support this specific casino for the sake of growth for our businesses, schools, and entire economical infrastructure. Both officials did what the Constitution stated they should do regarding this casino. They didn't disregard our wishes, as citizens of Pope County, they did what Arkansans voted for, and supported a casino that would positively influence our community, surrounding communities, and our state. One small group of citizens from Russellville shouldn't have the power to change rules just because they do not like what the rules state. If they can do this, a precedent will be set that allows all rules and regulations in our Constitution to be questioned just because one political group isn't satisfied. This is truly unfair to all Arkansans who voted for a casino in Pope County and the thousands of citizens in Pope county who desperately need growth to continue to support themselves.

I know you are getting a lot of pressure from both sides, but as a small business owner I pray you are reading each of these emails and understanding that not all citizens of Pope County is against this casino. We desperately need growth, and if these rules are changed, and our previous Mayor and County Judge's letter are disregarded, that growth will simply not happen and our schools, our children, and our businesses will all suffer tremendously.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Laura Brown

479-970-0986

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Casino

**From:** Steve Gist <stevegist@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 1:09 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Casino

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** "Steve Gist" <stevegist@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "bfreeland@mwlaw.com" <bfreeland@mwlaw.com>  
**Cc:**  
**Sent:** Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 1:07 PM  
**Subject:** Casino

Please NO casino in pope county . Thank you Steve Gist  
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Susie Luce

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**From:** julie goodin <jmgoodin\_2000@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 2:34 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nicki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Subject:** Casino Rules Racing Commission

To: Chairman Lieblong and other Commissioners,

Thank you for your service to the State of Arkansas. Concerning the proposed casino rules I would like to express my opinion to as stated in paragraph 2.13.4(b) the rule that requires that a support letter for a proposed casino must come from a sitting County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time the casino application is presented to the Racing Commission. I agree with this rule and recommend that this particular rule remain in place as written through this entire review process of the rules. Thank you for your time and service,

Mrs. Julie Oxendine  
Elementary Physical Education Teacher  
Sequoyah Elementary  
Russellville  
(479)968-2134  
[julie.oxendine@russellvilleschools.net](mailto:julie.oxendine@russellvilleschools.net)

Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Susie Luce

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**From:** Elona Sanford <elonas@suddenlinkmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 12:30 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Current elected officials vs. lame-duck officials

Racing Commissioners:

I am a resident of Pope County.

I am interested in making sure that the rules you approve governing casino licensing are **fair and appropriate**.

I am asking that you approve the rules as they stand now.

The only way for the affected counties to have a **fair say** in the application process is to require a letter of support **from a current elected official**. Current county judges, mayors, and quorum court members are accountable to the voters in their counties—they should be the ones to decide if a letter of support is issued.

Allowing letters from **lame-duck officials** who may not have held any public discussions with casino applicants, or sought any voter input, is **unfair** and **unworthy** of our representative process.

Please stand behind Rule 2 **as it's written** and require the letter of support to come from a **current official**.

Thank you.

Elona Rowe

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jim Knight <jim.knight@realpractices.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 12:17 PM  
**To:** 'smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov'; 'nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov'; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations

Arkansas Racing Commission -

Regarding the public comment period of proposed Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Thank you,  
Jim Knight

Susie Luce

**From:** Donna Smith <donna.smith@realpractices.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 11:16 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Subject:** casino in pope county

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

**RULE 2.13.4(b)** "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Thank you,



**Donna Smith** - Civil Operations  
1310 West Main Street, Suite 201, Rusteford, AR 72801  
P. 479-868-9001 • F. 479-807-7025 • T. 479-904-2008

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Richard Krentz  
556 Babson Creek Road  
Russellville, Ark. 72802  
479 495 0828

Jan. 23, 2019

Arkansas Racing Commission

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the proposed language of the regulation concerning the casino's in Arkansas.

I wholly support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4b) that states at the time of application, the Mayor, County Judge, or Quorum Court may then give a letter of support.

The voters of Pope county are engaged and well informed about the issues that affect their county. My hope is that the commission will give weight to the voice of voters in this application process.

Please take note of the Pope County Ordinance which passed in November by a 68% of voters which says that voters in Pope county shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before a letter of support can be written.

Thank You

Respectfully submitted

Richard Krentz

Susie Luce

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**From:** Laura Brown <laurasuebrown@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 3:22 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Re: Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

Okay thank you very much. I will pass on the information.

**From:** Susie Luce <SLuce@mwlaw.com> on behalf of Byron Freeland <BFreeland@mwlaw.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 11:37:29 AM  
**To:** Laura Brown (laurasuebrown@hotmail.com)  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** RE: Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

The Arkansas Racing Commission is obligated to turn over any emails that it receives in the form received. As a result, the email address would probably be released under the law. If a person desires to ensure anonymity, she/he can use regular mail and not put a return address or name on the comment. Regular mail comments can be sent to the Arkansas Racing Commission at P.O. Box 3076, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

**MITCHELL WILLIAMS**

**Byron Freeland**  
T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)  
425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Nikki Langston [mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 8:58 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

**From:** Laura Brown <laurasuebrown@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 11:37 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

Nikki,

Thank you for listening to my concerns earlier. I appreciate you hearing me out as we are dealing with this backlash. I know this isn't your fault, and I appreciate you explaining.

For future interest, I have a lot of people wanting to write letters but are now scared due to aggression associated with the



subject. If they submit anonymously, will their email addresses released? This is such a contentious subject in a Russellville, I want to make sure that those who are for it are protected.

Thank you for your help, I greatly appreciate it,

Laura Brown  
479-970-0986

**From:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 2:24:35 PM  
**To:** Laura Brown  
**Subject:** RE: Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

Thank you for your input. I will pass this along.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** Laura Brown <[laurasuebrown@hotmail.com](mailto:laurasuebrown@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 2:20 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Why Changing Rule 2 Will Hurt Pope County

Dear Ms. Langston,

My name is Laura Brown and I am a small business owner in Pope County. I have lived here my entire life and am also the daughter of another small business in our town. I am a proud member of our community and have always thought Russellville was a wonderful place to live. The only downfall to living in this beautiful town though, is the lack of growth. Unfortunately, every time any new business, development, or opportunity is introduced to this area, the same group of people block the proposal. I have watched this town try to block a Wal Mart Neighborhood Market, food trucks, multiple restaurants, and even an assisted living facility. We are a great community, but if we want to continue to grow, we have got to stop blocking all opportunities that could allow both growth and change.

Our previous mayor researched casinos all over the country. He spoke with groups from Las Vegas, Mississippi, and New Mexico. He researched statistics and spoke with other mayors, citizens, and casino employees. He wanted to ensure that even if he was not re-elected Russellville could receive a casino that best meets our needs as a community. To say they were properly vetted was an understatement. The previous County Judge who served us flawlessly for twenty years spoke with citizens across our town and chose to support this specific casino for the sake of growth for our businesses, schools, and entire economical infrastructure. Both officials did what the Constitution stated they should do regarding this casino. They didn't disregard our wishes, as citizens of Pope County, they did what Arkansans voted for, and supported a casino that would positively influence our community, surrounding communities, and our state. One small group of citizens from Russellville shouldn't have the power to change rules just because they do not like what the rules state. If they can do this, a precedent will be set that allows all rules and regulations in our Constitution to be questioned just because one political group isn't satisfied. This is truly unfair to all Arkansans who

voted for a casino in Pope County and the thousands of citizens in Pope county who desperately need growth to continue to support themselves.

I know you are getting a lot of pressure from both sides, but as a small business owner I pray you are reading each of these emails and understanding that not all citizens of Pope County is against this casino. We desperately need growth, and if these rules are changed, and our previous Mayor and County Judge's letter are disregarded, that growth will simply not happen and our schools, our children, and our businesses will all suffer tremendously.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Laura Brown

479-970-0986

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Susie Luce

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**From:** Sara Goodin <saragoodin@suddenlink.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 10:41 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Rules - Arkansas Racing Commission

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support stating that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I hope the commission will give weight to the voice of county voters in the application process.

Thank you for your service to the state of Arkansas.

Sincerely,  
Sara Lou Goodin

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jon R. Sanford <jrsanford@suddenlinkmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 8:51 AM  
**To:** Nikki.Langston@DFA.Arkansas.gov; Byron Freeiland; smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Subject:** keeping the playing field we have

Racing Commissioners:

I am a resident of Pope County and I am very interested in making sure that the rules you approve governing casino licensing are fair and appropriate. I encourage you to approve the rules as they stand now. Requiring a letter of support from a current elected official is the only way for the affected counties to have a fair say in the application process. Current county judges, mayors, and quorum court members are accountable to the voters in their counties—they should be the ones to decide if a letter of support is issued. Allowing letters from lame-duck officials who may not have held any public discussions with casino applicants, or sought any voter input, is unfair and unworthy of our representative process.

Please stand behind Rule 2 as it's written and require the letter of support to come from a current official.

Jon R. Sanford

Attorney at Law

Jon R. Sanford, P. A.

P. O. Box 336

Russellville, AR 72811

479-968-5400



STATE OF ARKANSAS

# House of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Cloud  
3207 Oak Hill Court  
Russellville, Arkansas 72802-7956

479-858-8033 Residence  
joe.cloud@arkansashouse.org

DISTRICT 71

Counties:  
Pact Pope

COMMITTEES:

Revenue and Taxation  
Insurance and Commerce  
Legislative Joint Auditing Committee

January 23, 2019

Racing Commission  
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration  
1515 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 505  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this letter of support for the upcoming Racing Commission Meeting on February 21, 2019. On behalf of myself and my constituents, we support the rules/regulations, as proposed in favor of a rule change, especially Rule 2, (paragraph 2.13.4(b), under Rule #2 covering the licensing process), related to casino gambling.

Also, please note the Pope County Ordinance regarding a casino applicant, did pass by 68%. Therefore, any letter of support is not valid before an election.

I truly believe my constituents are entitled to take part in issues that directly affect our community and this is why I offer my full support of Rule #2. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joe Cloud, M.D.  
State Representative  
District 71

JC/jnm

Susie Luce

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**From:** Manning, Jenny <Jenny.Manning@arkansashouse.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 3:09 PM  
**To:** 'smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov'; 'nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov'; Byron Freeland  
**Cc:** 'Joe Cloud'  
**Subject:** From Rep. Joe Cloud  
**Attachments:** sharpmx6070N@arkleg.state.ar.us\_20190123\_155933.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Dear Commissioners-

Attached you will find a letter from Rep. Joe Cloud (in regards to an upcoming Racing Commission Meeting 02/21/19). If you have any questions, please let me or Rep. Cloud know.

Thank you-  
Jenny

Jenny Nall Manning  
Legislative Analyst  
Arkansas House of Representatives  
(501)-682-7771  
[jenny.manning@arkansashouse.org](mailto:jenny.manning@arkansashouse.org)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Susie Luce <SLuce@mwlaw.com> on behalf of Byron Freeland <BFreeland@mwlaw.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 2:59 PM  
**To:** Robin Thomas  
**Cc:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; smokeycampbell43@me.com  
**Subject:** RE: Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Arkansas law requires that all comments made about the proposed casino gaming rules be made public to anyone requesting those comments. In addition, all comments received by the Arkansas Racing Commission must be filed with the Legislative Review Committee that reviews all administrative agency rules. The Commission must comply with Arkansas law and release all public comments.

Let me know if you have any questions.

**MITCHELL WILLIAMS**

**Byron Freeland**  
T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)  
425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Robin Thomas [mailto:rt3773@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 12:25 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Re: Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

I am noticing that people are being quoted in the article. I am hoping that permission is granted before someone publicly quotes someone. I Do NOT want to be quoted in a news article.

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 10:26 AM Byron Freeland <BFreeland@mwlaw.com> wrote:

Robin Thomas,

The first article contained information that had not been updated from our office. There is an article today that contains the updated information.

**MITCHELL WILLIAMS**

**Byron Freeland**  
T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)

425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Robin Thomas [mailto:[rt3773@gmail.com](mailto:rt3773@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 7:26 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Re: Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Per this article....letters have not been received. In addition to you I have sent emails to [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov) and [nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov). Does public opinion need to be received by paper letters? Is there additional emails I can send my thoughts to? Or can you provide an address if I need to send paper letters.

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 12:32 PM Byron Freeland <[BFreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:BFreeland@mwlaw.com)> wrote:

Robin Thomas,

This is to confirm that your email comments regarding the proposed casino gaming rules in Arkansas were received by the Arkansas Racing Commission and will be considered by the Commission prior to the adoption of the casino gaming rules.

MITCHELL WILLIAMS

**Byron Freeland**  
T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)  
425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.



**From:** Robin Thomas [mailto:rt3773@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:23 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Member of the Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that casinos will be placed in Pope County. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version. Russellville has a long history of resisting progress and change, but once it happens we embrace it.

I believe I am speaking for many when I say our vision of a casino coming to Pope Co was going to be what we see just across the borders of our state. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat mislead.

Now that all of this has come to light and much more public, I am learning in my ignorance I was misled on the local ordinance vote. It has been brought to my attention it reads..."majority of registered voters". I have to ask, has there even ever been "the majority of registered voters" vote in an election? If there was a vote today between God and the devil....I don't think you would get the majority of the registered voters. Was this tactic used in the wording of the ordinance because they believed it was the only way to accomplish their goals?

Sincerely

Robin Thomas

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--  
Robin Thomas, COTA/L

Recovery Zone Pediatric Therapy

Russellville, AR

--  
Robin Thomas, COTA/L

Recovery Zone Pediatric Therapy

Russellville, AR

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Josh S <josh@sanfordlawfirm.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 2:37 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino Commission Rules

Dear Byron,

I am a resident of Pulaski County and I am very interested in making sure that the rules you approve governing casino licensing are fair and appropriate. I have family and friends in Pope County, and I own a business with a location there. I encourage you to approve the rules as they stand now. Requiring a letter of support from a current elected official is the only way for the affected counties to have a fair say in the application process. Current county judges, mayors, and quorum court members are accountable to the voters in their counties—they should be the ones to decide if a letter of support is issued. Allowing letters from lame-duck officials who may not have held any public discussions with casino applicants, or sought any voter input, is unfair and unworthy of our representative process.

Please stand behind Rule 2 as it's written and require the letter of support to come from a current official.

**Josh Sanford**  
**Attorney at Law**

Licensed in Courts in Arkansas, Colorado, Michigan and Texas



**Managing Attorney**  
**Sanford Law Firm, PLLC**

Offices in Little Rock and Russellville, Arkansas  
Email: [josh@sanfordlawfirm.com](mailto:josh@sanfordlawfirm.com)  
One Financial Center  
650 South Shackleford, Suite 411  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211  
Telephone: (501) 221-0088  
Facsimile: (888) 787-2040  
Website: [www.sanfordlawfirm.com](http://www.sanfordlawfirm.com)

This message, and any attachments, is intended for the addressee only. It may contain information which is legally privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, use or any action or reliance on this communication is strictly prohibited by the Electronic Communication Privacy Act at 18 USC 2510-2521. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone at (479) 880-0088 or by return e-mail and delete the message and any attachments.

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Susie Luce on behalf of Byron Freeland  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 10:23 AM  
**To:** 'Robin Thomas'  
**Cc:** smokeycampbell43@me.com; 'Nikki Langston'  
**Subject:** RE: Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Robin Thomas,

The first article contained information that had not been updated from our office. There is an article today that contains the updated information.

## MITCHELL WILLIAMS

**Byron Freeland**  
T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)  
425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Robin Thomas [<mailto:rt3773@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 7:26 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Re: Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Per this article....letters have not been received. In addition to you I have sent emails to [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov) and [nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov). Does public opinion need to be received by paper letters? Is there additional emails I can send my thoughts to? Or can you provide an address if I need to send paper letters.

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 12:32 PM Byron Freeland <[BFreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:BFreeland@mwlaw.com)> wrote:

Robin Thomas,

This is to confirm that your email comments regarding the proposed casino gaming rules in Arkansas were received by the Arkansas Racing Commission and will be considered by the Commission prior to the adoption of the casino gaming rules.

# MITCHELL WILLIAMS

## Byron Freeland

T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810

[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)

425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201

Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Robin Thomas [<mailto:rt3773@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 5:23 PM

**To:** Byron Freeland

**Subject:** Rule #2-vote NO to modified rule Pope Co

Member of the Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that casinos will be placed in Pope County. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version. Russellville has a long history of resisting progress and change, but once it happens we embrace it.

I believe I am speaking for many when I say our vision of a casino coming to Pope Co was going to be what we see just across the borders of our state. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat misled.

Now that all of this has come to light and much more public, I am learning in my ignorance I was misled on the local ordinance vote. It has been brought to my attention it reads..."majority of registered voters". I have to ask, has there even ever been "the majority of registered voters" vote in an election? If there was a vote today between God and the devil....I don't think you would get the majority of the registered voters. Was this tactic used in the wording of the ordinance because they believed it was the only way to accomplish their goals?

Sincerely

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Robin Thomas

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--  
**Robin Thomas, COTA/L**  
**Recovery Zone Pediatric Therapy**  
**Russellville, AR**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 10:36 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Pope Co-Rule 2 do not accept new version

**From:** Keith <thomas.electric@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 6:54 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope Co-Rule 2 do not accept new version

Members of Arkansas Racing Commission,

Please do NOT approve the amended change to Rule #2. Please vote to allow the rule to remain as it was voted on and read in November when the letter was submitted by Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson. I would like to encourage you to take whatever steps are necessary to grant Gulfside Casinos the go ahead to build River Valley Casinos. Please don't change the rules after the game has already begun. Please leave Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b) as it was voted on in November and do not vote for the amended version.

I am a lifelong resident of Russellville and Pope County and a registered voter. In November, I voted against the casino amendment. However, the state has spoken and the will of the people of Arkansas is that a casino will be placed in Pope County. I believe I am speaking for many when I say, our vision of the casino that would come to Pope Co is what we see just across our borders. That vision was created because the Cherokee and Quapaw nations funded extensive advertising. I, and many others, never envisioned a resort like what Gulfside is proposing would come to our area...or even our state. This resort can provide a much need boost in our state and local economy if we can just look beyond our conservative beliefs and have an open mind. This resort has a proven history of investing in the community in which they are located. This will also improve the quality of racing at Oaklawn which serves as an icon in our state. Oaklawn needs this casino, especially with the recent rulings by the Dept of Justice. This progress needs to start NOW...not 10 years from now. The people of the state spoke, and those people outnumber the people of Pope County who spoke and who I believe were somewhat misled.

I have had conversations with current Pope County Judge, Ben Cross. He maintains that he will represent the people and Pope County voted against the casino. If another election were held today in Pope County, following the knowledge that Gulfside it the company being supported, I have a strong feeling that things would be different.

You have the power to stand on the rules originally put in place and move this issue forward. You know that this is needed for our state and the Pope County judge's mind doesn't sound like it will be changed. Vote on your original set of rules and move forward.

Sincerely,

Keith Thomas

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019, 10:36 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** FW: Support for the Casino

-----Original Message-----

**From:** sarah billyard <sarahb08@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 5:50 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for the Casino

To whom it may concern :

I just wanted to show support for the idea of the Gulfside Casino for Russellville Arkansas. I am a resident of this city and county. This city is in dyer need of growth and change.

Thanks,  
Sarah Billyard

Sent from my iPhone



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Carol Lykins <Carol.Lykins@russellvilleschools.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 9:49 PM  
**To:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; mokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Support for the published language of rule #2

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Carol Lykins  
102 Barborek Lane  
Russellville, AR 72802

Dyslexia Interventionist  
Russellville Schools  
479-747-2868

[carol.lykins@russellvilleschools.net](mailto:carol.lykins@russellvilleschools.net)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Susie Luce on behalf of Byron Freeland  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 3:49 PM  
**To:** 'gharton@nwadg.com'  
**Cc:** 'Nikki Langston'; smokeycampbell43@me.com  
**Subject:** FW: Draft casino rules  
**Attachments:** Arkansas Casino Gaming Rules (to be published).pdf

Greg Harton,

We are working to get the proposed Arkansas casino gaming rules posted to the Racing Commission website.

A copy of the current proposed rules, as published, is attached.

Byron

## MITCHELL WILLIAMS

### Byron Freeland

T 501.688.8810 | F 501.918.7810  
[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com) | [MitchellWilliamsLaw.com](http://MitchellWilliamsLaw.com)  
425 W. Capitol Ave. | Ste. 1800 | Little Rock, AR 72201  
Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

**From:** Nikki Langston [<mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:48 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Draft casino rules

**From:** Greg Harton <[gharton@nwadg.com](mailto:gharton@nwadg.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:46 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Draft casino rules

Ms. Langston,

Please forward me a current copy of the draft rules for casinos in Arkansas by responding to this email.

Also, please pass along to those responsible within your agency that I would encourage them to post the draft rules to the Racing Commission website so that the public can access them easily.

I appreciate your help.

Greg



**Greg Harton**

Editorial Page Editor | [gharton@nwadg.com](mailto:gharton@nwadg.com)



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Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:48 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Draft casino rules

**From:** Greg Harton <[gharton@nwadg.com](mailto:gharton@nwadg.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:46 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Draft casino rules

Ms. Langston,

Please forward me a current copy of the draft rules for casinos in Arkansas by responding to this email.

Also, please pass along to those responsible within your agency that I would encourage them to post the draft rules to the Racing Commission website so that the public can access them easily.



I appreciate your help.

Greg



**Greg Harton**  
Editorial Page Editor | [gharton@nwadg.com](mailto:gharton@nwadg.com)



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Susie Luce

---

**From:** Miles Johnson <miles\_s\_johnson@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 1:37 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Regulations , Pope Co.

Dear Mr. Breeland:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Respectfully,

Miles Johnson  
Russellville, AR

Susie Luce

---

**From:** bigpineycabins@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 5:57 PM  
**To:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland; smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov

Im writing in response to the casino. The people of Arkansas have already voted Yes to the constitution which included Pope county. The current county judge is supposed to uphold the constitution as an elected official and he is not. Please accept Jim Ed gibsons letter of support and allow our county a casino like it was voted on. Changing the rules after a state wide vote is unfair and solely a political move if adopted.

Sent from my iPhone

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 2:00 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Casinos in Arkansas & Pope County  
**Attachments:** Casino Letter.odt

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [jim.lanier@suddenlink.net](mailto:jim.lanier@suddenlink.net) <[jim.lanier@suddenlink.net](mailto:jim.lanier@suddenlink.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 11:06 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Casinos in Arkansas & Pope County

I am apposed to any casino but I am submitting the attached letter for your consideration.

Arkansas Racing Commission,  
PO Box 3076,  
Little Rock , Arkansas 72203.

Commission Member:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

James Lanier  
1418 Shalimar Circle  
Russellville, Arkansas 72802



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Steve Gist <stevegist@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 1:07 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino

Please NO casino in pope county . Thank you Steve Gist  
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Janet Fryar <janetfryar2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 9:06 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Draft rules for casino amendment

I am pleased that there is a comment period to allow citizens of Arkansas to give feedback on the draft rules that govern the casinos to be built in Arkansas.

I am from Pope County and appreciate the new wording of Rule 2 requiring a casino applicant to have a letter of support "...dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license".

You are well aware of the controversy in Pope County and Jefferson County. This requirement solves both counties dilemmas and is necessary to avoid confusion.

Gulfside has fabricated the idea that they hold a "letter of support" from Judge Jim Ed Gibson, however as was also brought to everyone's attention in the January meeting of the Racing Commission, this is not the case. Judge Gibson in an interview, before he left office, stated that the one sentence letter was NOT a letter of support.

In writing Rule 2, requiring a current office holder you have clarified this issue and I heartily approve.

The amendment itself gives the impression that the counties involved would have a say in the selection of a casino and not be intimidated by outside interests.

Please keep this language. This is about respecting the rights of Arkansans who have no voice unless you act honorably in this matter.

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:09 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Rules for issuing licenses for casinos

**From:** James Knight <[sjknight@suddenlink.net](mailto:sjknight@suddenlink.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 6:55 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Rules for issuing licenses for casinos

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:** Rules for issuing licenses for casinos  
**Date:** Mon, 4 Feb 2019 18:52:10 -0600  
**From:** James Knight <[sjknight@suddenlink.net](mailto:sjknight@suddenlink.net)>  
**To:** [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov) Rules

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments.

I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

James E. Knight, 673 Bayou Ridge Loop, Dover, AR 72837. 479-967-3412

 Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:09 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Rules for issuing licenses for casinos

**From:** James Knight <[sjknight@suddenlink.net](mailto:sjknight@suddenlink.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 6:55 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Rules for issuing licenses for casinos

----- Forwarded Message -----


**Subject:** Rules for issuing licenses for casinos  
**Date:** Mon, 4 Feb 2019 18:52:10 -0600  
**From:** James Knight <[sjknight@suddenlink.net](mailto:sjknight@suddenlink.net)>  
**To:** [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov) Rules

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments.

I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

James E. Knight, 673 Bayou Ridge Loop, Dover, AR 72837. 479-967-3412

 Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** nancy johnson <nanjohns2011@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 6:23 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** proposed casino in pope county

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in our great state of Arkansas. I support the language in Rule 2{2.13.4b} ....Only letters from the **currently** elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters. That should make the letters of former Judge Gibson and former Mayor Horton **invalid** as the application process is not even opened yet. It is my hope that you will listen to the 68% majority voice of the people who live in Pope county. Please keep that in consideration.....thank you..

Nancy and Jay Johnson

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:08 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: proposed casino in pope county

**From:** nancy johnson <nanjohns2011@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 6:20 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** proposed casino in pope county

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in our great state of Arkansas. I support the language in Rule 2{2.13.4b} ...Only letters from the **currently** elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters. That should make the letters of former Judge Gibson and former Mayor Horton **invalid** as the application process is not even opened yet. It is my hope that you will listen to the 68% majority voice of the people who live in Pope county. Please keep that in consideration.....thank you..

Nancy and Jay Johnson

Susie Luce

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**From:** Sharon Trusty <STrusty@SuddenLink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 1:38 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

I respectfully ask you to consider what the vast majority of the people in our area support. Thank you.

Sharon Trusty, Former State Senator  
2429 West 4th Street  
Russellville, AR 72801

Susie Luce

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**From:** DeLynn Smithers <delynnsmithers@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 9:10 AM  
**To:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Cc:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino

Russellville is my hometown. I was a Realtor here for 35 years. I'm retired. 65 years old. I remember how certain business men tried to stop ANO from coming to our city & County. Now we have business leaders once, again trying to stop the growth of our city. ANO has been wonderful. Now we are approaching the end of ANO. We need the Casino here in Russellville, Pope County. I believe that Gulfside will be a great partner in our community. I don't think all Pope County or Russellville had the opportunity to previously vote on this matter. We need this Casino!

Sent from my iPad



Susie Luce

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**From:** Billy Hubbard <billyhubbard72@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 10:34 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Cc:** ronnie@rfalife.com  
**Subject:** Arkansas Racing Commission: Casino in Pope County.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the current elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of County voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Respectfully,

Billy Hubbard

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jon Price <jtprice21@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 10:54 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Keep Judge Gibson's letter for Pope County!

There are numerous projects in our city and county that need to be addressed. Our citizens cannot afford a tax increase to complete these projects. We should not be asked to pay the highest tax rates in the state when there is another option on the table. Please bring the casino to Pope County! Judge Gibson accomplished many great things for this county for 20 plus years. Why should we second guess his loyalty and opinion on the matter now?

Thank You!

Susie Luce

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**From:** Mike McCoy <smichael\_mccoy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 7:20 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rules Change

Arkansas Racing Commission,

I am sending this email in support of the proposed Arkansas Racing Commission rule which requires that letters of support can only come from officials in office at the time the casino application is submitted.


I live in Russellville and the residents of Russellville and Pope County overwhelmingly voted against allowing casinos in Arkansas and also passed a county ordinance which mandates a local vote to approve letters of support from our local officials. The majority of the residents of Russellville and Pope County do not want a casino in our community or county.

In their last days in office, our retiring county judge and mayor of Russellville submitted letters of support for one of the casino operators. The mayor was defeated by a candidate who opposed the casino and the newly elected county judge said he would only send a letter of support if approved by the voters. I do not believe the letters of support from these two outgoing officials should be accepted.

Thank you for allowing comments to be submitted and again i support this change in rules which state that letters of support can only come from officials in office at the time the application for a casino is submitted.

Sincerely,

Mike McCoy

 Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jared Wood <jmwood2589@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 7:21 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** 2.13.4 (b), under rule #2 covering the licensing process

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4 (b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

I urge the Arkansas Racing Commission to please honor the wishes of the majority of Pope County residents to not accept letters of support from County and City Officials that are no longer in office and did not honor the wishes of the County or City residents.

Thank you for your time and your consideration

Jared M. Wood  
Pope County Voter

Susie Luce

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**From:** gjdenton@suddenlink.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 9:22 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Rules - Arkansas Racing Commission

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for allowing us to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. We feel that as citizens of Arkansas and specifically as residents of Pope County we need to make our feelings known to you. Specifically, we would like to directly comment on one specific part of the rules: paragraph 2. 13.4(b) under Rule #2 covering the licensing process.

We support the published language of Rule 2 which regards the local officials' letters of support stating that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support. They are who we elected, thus they should speak for the people at this time.

We would also like to ask the Arkansas Racing Commission to take note of the Pope County Ordinance passed by 68% of county voters of Pope County in the November election which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

We truly do appreciate your attention to this matter. For many, many reasons which have been stated many times we hope you will take into consideration the wishes of the county voters which were shown in the November election. The majority of voters do not want a casino in our area. Many of us feel that it would bring a negative atmosphere to our area which we have fought against for many years.

Again, thank you for giving your time and attention to a matter of great importance to us. We truly hope you will consider the voices of the county voters.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary and Evelyn Denton

Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 9:57 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston; Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Casino Rules - Arkansas Racing Commission

Just sent to me

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [gjdenton@suddenlink.net](mailto:gjdenton@suddenlink.net) <[gjdenton@suddenlink.net](mailto:gjdenton@suddenlink.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:08 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <[Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Rules - Arkansas Racing Commission

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for allowing us to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. We feel that as citizens of Arkansas and specifically as residents of Pope County we need to make our feelings known to you. Specifically, we would like to directly comment on one specific part of the rules: paragraph 2. 13.4(b) under Rule #2 covering the licensing process.

We support the published language of Rule 2 which regards the local officials' letters of support stating that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support. They are who we elected, thus they should speak for the people at this time.

We would also like to ask the Arkansas Racing Commission to take note of the Pope County Ordinance passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

We truly do appreciate your attention to this matter. For many, many reasons we hope you will take into consideration the wishes of the county voters which were shown in the November election. The majority of the voters do not want a casino. Many of us feel that it would bring an atmosphere to our area that we have fought against for many years.

Thank you for giving your time and attention to a matter that is so important to us. We truly hope you will consider the voice of the county voters in the application process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary and Evelyn Denton

Susie Luce

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**From:** Allan George <allang1967@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 9:57 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Rules

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support stating that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I hope the commission will give weight to the voice of county voters in the application process.

Thank you for your service to the state of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

Allan R. George

Susie Luce

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**From:** Pierce, Richard <Richard.Pierce@afbic.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:28 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland

Dear Mr. Freeland. I am a citizen of Pope County and am writing to express my desires to have the new rules you have placed in writing to remain in force regarding the potential placement of a casino in Pope County. I have been opposed to this from the beginning and fell the overall negative impact to the economic and social climate to our community far outweighs the financial benefit that we would possibly see. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Richard Pierce, Agency Manager**

Arkansas Insurance Producer License Number 23186  
1805 East Parkway  
PO Box 10400  
Russellville, AR 72812

Office: 479-968-1361  
Fax: 479-968-1378  
Cell: 479-970-1333

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**From:** gduvall@cswnet.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:35 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Cc:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Fwd: Public Comment on Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations  
**Attachments:** County Resolution.pdf; City Resolution.pdf; 12-31-18 News Article.pdf

**To:** Racing Commission

**Subject:** Fwd: Public Comment on Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations

Arkansas Racing Commission-

Regarding the public comment period of proposed Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations, I would like to make the following comments:

1. The proposed and published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] is exactly as it should be, and I am in full support of.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

2. The voters of Pope County spoke very clear on November 6<sup>th</sup> regarding our community's intent of casino gaming and a local control ordinance. The Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

3. With this email, I have attached 3 important and pertinent items related to a casino in Pope County: A resolution from the Pope County Quorum Court; A resolution from the Russellville City Council; A local news article from previous County Judge regarding his opinion and intention of a letter his office issues prior to the end of 2018. It is very clear that both governing bodies, the county and the city, were not in favor of a local casino without a binding vote of the local residents. It is also clear that the previous County Judge that issued 'a letter' made a public declaration that the intent of his letter was not to be considered a letter of support as required in the Casino Amendment and therefore should not be considered as such by anyone.
4. Trying to use letters of support from elected officials not in office when the application process initiates and actually begins sets inappropriate precedent and should not be allowed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

Debra J Duvall  
822 Lake Road  
Atkins, Ar 72823  
Pope County Registered Voter

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-R-6

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING A CASINO IN POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, the issue of a Constitutional Amendment regarding a casino being in Pope County, Arkansas will be voted on by the voters of the State of Arkansas in November, 2018; and

WHEREAS, if the casino passes in a Statewide election, but fails in Pope County, then the Quorum Court encourages the Pope County Judge to not issue a "letter of support" to the Office of Casino Gaming.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS: That the voters of Pope County, Arkansas in the November 2018 election should determine whether or not a casino is built in Pope County, Arkansas.

RESOLVED, this 5 day of July, 2018.

DATE: 7-5-18

APPROVED:

UN-Signed  
JIM ED GIBSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

UN-Signed  
LAURA McGUIRE, COUNTY CLERK

VOTES FOR: 12 VOTES AGAINST: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0 PRESENT: 12 ABSENT: 1

A-309

William F. Smith III  
City Attorney  
203 S. Commerce Ave.  
Russellville, AR 72811  
Sponsor: Tripp  
NB#2A

RESOLUTION NO. 1695.

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE FOR FAILING TO INCLUDE IN THE AMENDMENT A LOCAL OPTION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY TO HOLD A SEPARATE SUBSEQUENT SPECIAL ELECTION TO HAVE THE FINAL DECISION ON THE APPROVAL OF CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the issuance of four licenses for casino gaming, one (1) of which would be for the geographical area of Pope County, Arkansas, shall be submitted to the voters of the State of Arkansas in the form of a proposed state constitutional amendment to the state constitution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed state constitutional amendment makes no allowance for the input of residents in Pope County or any city in Pope County should the proposed constitutional amendment be passed by the voters of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, believes that the proposed state constitutional amendment should have had a local option which the residents of Pope County or any city in Pope County to be able to have a separate vote by special election to determine locally whether they want casino gaming in Pope County or any city in Pope County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to express its opinion on the matter by this Resolution.

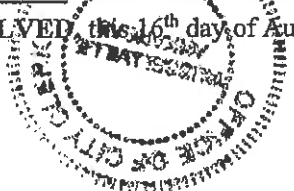
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS, THAT:

**SECTION 1:** The City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, objects to the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming because of its failure to have a local option for the residents of any city in Pope County, which includes the City of Russellville, to have a separate subsequent special election, should the proposed state constitutional amendment pass in a statewide election, to ultimately determine approval of casino gaming in either Pope County or any city in Pope County.

**SECTION 2:** If the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming passes in the state election but fails in the Pope County election returns, then the City Council request that the Mayor to not issue a "Letter of Support" to the Arkansas Racing Commission or other governing authority, without City Council authorization.


**SECTION 3:** This Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

RESOLVED, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.




  
RANDY HORTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
PAT TAYLOR,  
CITY CLERK-TREASURER

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

  
WILLIAM F. SMITH III,  
CITY ATTORNEY

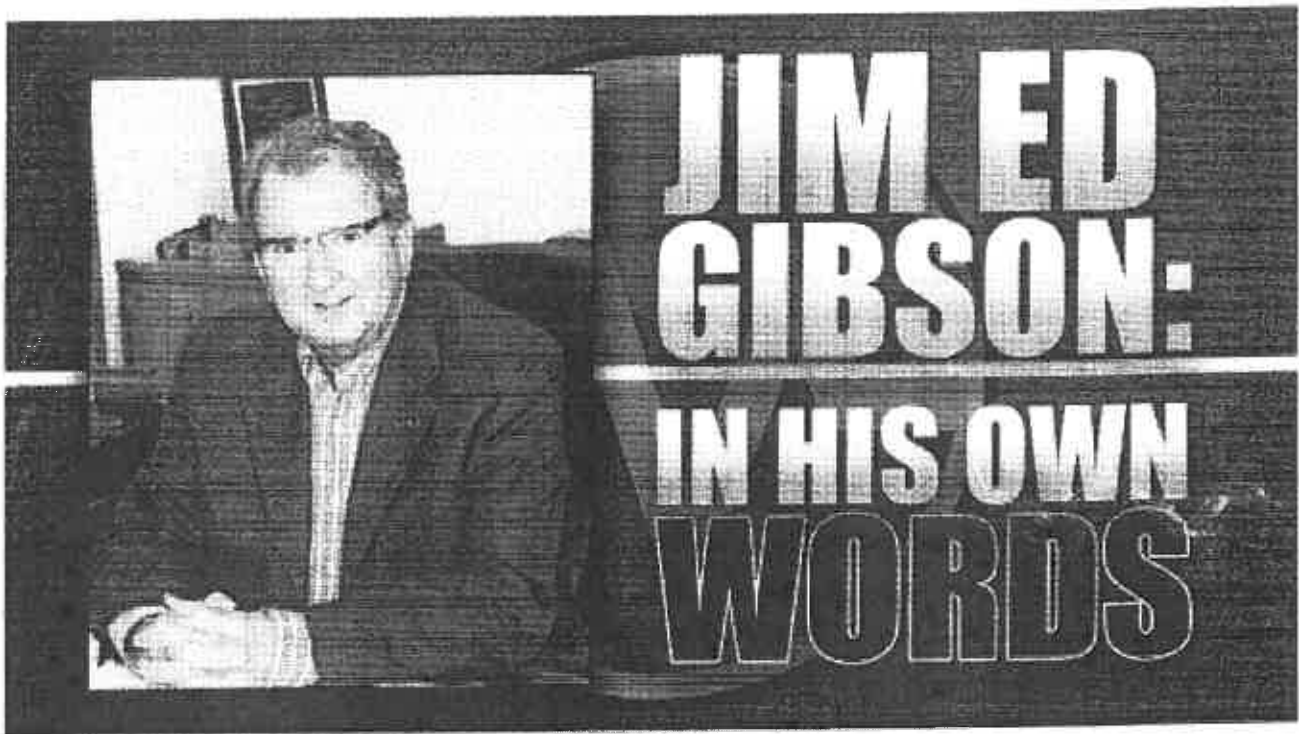
I, Pat Taylor, City Clerk-Treasurer of Russellville, Arkansas, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 1694 passed by the City Council of the City of Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

[https://www.rivervalleynow.com/local\\_news/judge-gibson-in-his-own-words/article\\_012930f8-0d55-11e9-afd0-4b2d94feab4c.html](https://www.rivervalleynow.com/local_news/judge-gibson-in-his-own-words/article_012930f8-0d55-11e9-afd0-4b2d94feab4c.html)

FEATURED

## Judge Gibson: In His Own Words

Dec 31, 2018



There has been some controversy since Judge Jim Ed Gibson's "letter" to the state racing commission was sent in support of Gulfside Casino Partnership as to whether it was meant to satisfy the requirement set forth by the new Arkansas constitutional amendment allowing casinos in four Arkansas counties. Issue four required "either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the county quorum court in the county where the casino would be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city, a letter of support from the mayor of that city."

RVN was able to visit with Judge Gibson to get clarification as to what he meant the letter to be, why he felt going against the county ordinance enacted by a vote of the people, and why it was important he issue his letter before leaving office. Read his thoughts below:

**RVN:** There has been some debate as to the intent of the letter. Was it intended to be THE letter of support that was asked for?



**Gibson:** No. The letter I sent was 1 sentence long. And that's why we put "IF a casino license is granted" in the letter.

**RVN:** I think that's why there was some debate about it, because people have said, well he's saying "if", so it's not the letter that's needed. So, I just wanted to get your perspective on what the intent was. So, it wasn't necessarily meant as THE letter of support?

**Gibson:** No, it wasn't.



**RVN:** Why go against the ordinance?

**Gibson:** *Well, I've been told that the ordinance is not binding. And this is a multi-million dollar investment that's going to be made in the county & we want to make sure that the right people are in place.*

**RVN:** So, what was the main factor in offering the support with a letter "if" a license is awarded? What made you disregard the ordinance? Did you think it just wasn't binding?

**Gibson:** *Well, I wanted to be proactive & I've been told that this ordinance is not binding.*

Susie Luce

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**From:** Pat Taylor <taypat54@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:07 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino in my county.

## ARKANSAS RACING COMMISSION:

THANK YOU for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing gambling in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2. {2.12.4(b)} regarding the local official's letters of support, in re: only letters from recently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by over 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Pat Taylor



Susie Luce

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**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 10:02 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston; Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Casino in my county

Only sent to me

**From:** Pat Taylor <taypat54@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:06 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casino in my county

### ARKANSAS RACING COMMISSION:

THANK YOU for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing gambling in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2. {2.12.4(b)} regarding the local official's letters of support, in re: only letters from recently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by over 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Pat Taylor

Susie Luce

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**From:** Sandra Bradley <sandra.bradley@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 3:28 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbel@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Cc:** niki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Subject:** Racing Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4(b) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by the 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming licenses.

Sincerely,

Your name

Sandra Bradley

The letter has to be emailed to these 3 people

1. [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov)

2. [nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)

3. [bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com)

**Susie Luce**

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:59 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Cc:** Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Casino

**From:** Iris Ferguson <[iris.ferguson@yahoo.com](mailto:iris.ferguson@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casino

**Arkansas Racing Commission,**

**Thank you for the opportunity to come  
in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to**

**1. I support the published language of  
support: only letters from the current  
time of application should be consider**

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

**RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."**

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Iris Ferguson <iris.ferguson@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 2:31 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

**RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."**

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

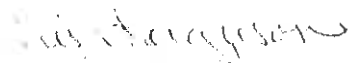
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. J. Johnson".

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:32 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-30-143227.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:32 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

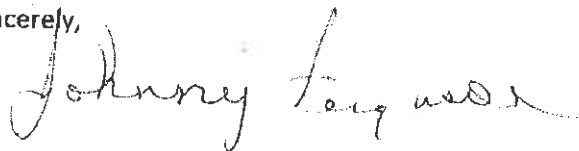
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Johnny Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:34 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-30-143454.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:35 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Barry Fields*

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:38 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-30-143954.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:40 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee R. Fields". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:36 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-30-143737.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:38 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Atwood

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:40 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-30-144121.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:41 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Susanne Watson <watsonsusanne@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:43 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Cc:** nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov

**Subject:** Casinos

To whom this may concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2[2.13.4b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support; only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court. Rule 2[2.13.4(b)] "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope Count and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the Quorum Court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and Amendments, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of submission of an application for a casino gaming license.

Thank you for you attention concerning this serious matter at hand.

Sincerely,

Susanne Watson

[watsonsusanne@aol.com](mailto:watsonsusanne@aol.com)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:23 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Racing Commission

**From:** Linda Tucker <linda.tucker20@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:22 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Racing Commission

Date of this letter: 1/30/2019

To: Racing Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4(b) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by the 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license.

Sincerely,

Linda G. Tucker

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Linda Tucker <linda.tucker20@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:46 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Racing Commission

Date of this letter: 1/30/2019

To: Racing Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4(b) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by the 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court. RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming licenses.

Sincerely,  
Linda G. Tucker

Susie Luce

---

**From:** James Tucker <Jameswtucker@mail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:01 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** New proposed regulations Governing Casinos in AR

Date of this letter: 1/30/2019

To: Racing Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4(b) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by the 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.  
RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Sincerely,  
James W. Tucker

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 9:54 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston; Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Casion Regulation

Just sent to me

**From:** James Tucker <Jameswtucker@mail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:29 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casion Regulation

Date of this letter: 1/30/2019

To: Racing Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule2 (2.13.4(b) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by the 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.  
RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming licenses.

Sincerely,  
James W. Tucker

text\_0.txt

To the members of the Arkansas racing commission:

As a resident of Pope County, I feel that the casino planned for Russellville would be a good thing for the community. It would bring lots of jobs and provide revenue to help improve schools and roads.

Therefore, I am requesting that you vote against the modified rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4 (b). Leaving the rule as it was written and voted on in November.

Allow Judge Gibson's letter to stand and fulfill the requirements needed for Gulfside Casinos to move forward.

Sincerely,  
S. J. Cook



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:33 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce; Nikki Langston  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** text\_0.txt

The first text we received

**From:** [4797473988@vzwpix.com](mailto:4797473988@vzwpix.com) <[4797473988@vzwpix.com](mailto:4797473988@vzwpix.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:31 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <[Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** troyoramy whitlow <troyoramy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino Licensing Rules

Racing Commission members,

I support the proposed Casino and Licensing Rules, specifically Rule 2, which requires casino applicants to have a letter of support from a current county judge, mayor or Quorum Court. The addition of this rule will allow the citizens of an area to be informed of current proposals as well as a part of the conversation about whether a casino is right for the community, whereas allowing the letters of support to happen before or without the knowledge of the community takes away our ability to be a part of the conversation. This would allow such decisions to be made behind closed doors prior to the amendments proposal.

As a resident of Pope County, I support the proposed Rule 2 which will hopefully allow Pope County community members to be presented with information and be a part of the discussions and processes on such an important decision that will have such a tremendous impact on our community.

Thank you for establishing such a fair and balanced way of dealing with a difficult dilemma.

With kind regards,

Amanda Whitlow  
Russellville, Arkansas resident

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Sandi Mitchell <sandimitchell1121@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 7:57 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino for Pope County Arkansas

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 (2.13.4(b)) regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of the application should be considered as valid letter of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November 2018 election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your time.

Sandra Mitchell

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Daveline Davis <daveline\_d@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:37 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Racing Commission rule #2

I'm a registered voter from Pope Co. I did sign the petition for the people of Pope Co. to have the right to vote on whether we got a casino or not. I did not realize at the time they had made it impossible for it ever to pass because they said a majority of the registered voters! I didn't think it mattered because I thought when it passed state wide that superseded the county vote. Having said that,

This is to request you vote against the modified Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b). Leave the rule as it was written and voted on in November. Allow Judge Gibson's letter to stand and fulfill the requirements needed for Gulfside Casinos to move forward. This is in the best interest of Pope County and the state of Arkansas. This is the will of the people of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

D. M. Davis

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:53 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Racing Commission rule #2

**From:** Daveline Davis <daveline\_d@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:27 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Racing Commission rule #2

I'm a registered voter from Pope Co. I did sign the petition for the people of Pope Co. to have the right to vote on whether we got a casino or not. I did not realize at the time they had made it impossible for it ever to pass because they said a majority of the registered voters! I didn't think it mattered because I thought when it passed state wide that superseded the county vote. Having said that,

This is to request you vote against the modified Rule #2, specifically paragraph 2.13.4(b). Leave the rule as it was written and voted on in November. Allow Judge Gibson's letter to stand and fulfill the requirements needed for Gulfside Casinos to move forward. This is in the best interest of Pope County and the state of Arkansas. This is the will of the people of Arkansas.

Sincerely,  
D. M. Davis

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Ronnie Morris <ronnie@rfalife.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:58 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Regulation Change

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas.

Pope County voted against the casino by a favorable margin. Also, the County voters passed a local Ordinance by 68% in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court. The previous County Judge and City Mayor disregarded due process and sent letters of support anyway. That is why I am in support of the published language of Rule [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Ronnie Morris

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Sylvia Watts*

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:29 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-29-103042.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:31 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Betty Long*

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:27 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-29-102526.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mary Cosky in cursive script.

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:31 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-29-103217.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:32 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

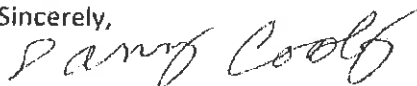
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Pamy Cook in cursive script.

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:23 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-29-102350.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:24 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Hugh Laws <hlaws@lawslawfirm.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikkilangston@dfa.arkansas.gov  
**Cc:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Public Comment of Racing Commission Rules-Casinos

**Importance:** High

Dear Commissioners

As a citizen of Pope County, AR, and of this State, I wish to thank you for taking my comments regarding the published rules on the above reference issue. I am overwhelmingly in support of the rules as published. In particular, I support Rule 2 relating to the requirement that the letters of support required by Amendment 100 come from elected officials at the time of the application.

This makes perfectly good sense. It takes away the People's concerns that there was no real selection process undertaken in choosing or vetting of any applicant by our "lame duck" Pope County and Russellville officials, or that there was some kind of "smoke filled back room deal" made by these officials and the casino operators they attempted to support. It alleviates the appearance of impropriety involving a deal that by everyone's account would potentially generate huge amounts of money for any casino operator that may be eventually chosen. The process should be open and transparent. The People of Pope County and this great State of Arkansas should have the right to trust our government officials. By adopting Rule 2 as published you will be doing the right thing.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh R. Laws  
Laws Law Firm, P.A.  
P.O. Box 3000  
Russellville, AR 72811  
479-968-1168  
479-968-5590 Fax  
[hlaws@lawslawfirm.com](mailto:hlaws@lawslawfirm.com)

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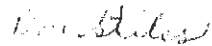
Don Stiles  
680 Center Valley Rd.  
Russellville, AR 72802

Arkansans Racing Commission  
1515 Building  
1515 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Ste. 505  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Gentlemen,

I am writing to express my opposition to building a 600-room, \$250 million hotel and casino in Russellville. The people of Russellville have expressed their desire not to have a casino in this city, and I support their desires. Please, do not permit the casino to go forward after the people have spoken.

Sincerely,



Don Stiles



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:18 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-28-141921.pdf

Received by mail!

Thank you,  
**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:19 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

January 23, 2019

Arkansas Racing Commission  
1515 Building  
1515 W 7th St, Ste 505  
Little Rock, AR 72201

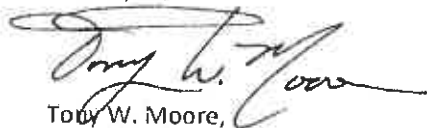
Commissioners,

I was in attendance at the January Racing Commission Meeting and would like to Thank you for the Professional way the meeting was conducted. The Chairmen, Commissioners, and the attorney, Mr. Freeland, was up to date, informed, and engage, and was very evident to me, while listening to testimony.

Thank you for amending the draft rules including the updated language for the most recently elected officials being the recognized letters of support. This is both reasonable and practical and allows for the voice of the people to be reflected the very best. Lastly, I would greatly appreciate any recognition the racing commission might give to the Local Pope County Ordinance. The final decision for or against should come from the county where the casino will be built.

The tone and civility so eloquently noted by the chairman was reflected first in the conduct and demeanor of the entire commission. I hope we can continue to express opinions openly and not demean or villainize those who might be in opposition. Yours was a great example.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony W. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tony W. Moore,  
Resident Pope County

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:16 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-28-141714.pdf

Received by mail!

Thank you,  
**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:17 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

1/25/2019

Arkansas Racing commission  
1515 West 7<sup>th</sup> St Ste 505  
Little Rock AR 72201

RE The Rules Change for Casinos---

First of all the people of Pope County never asked <sup>for</sup> a casino in the first place. We don't know who decided for us what we needed. This whole thing has been an under the table deal from the beginning. Our county judge and mayor have both been replaced. Our current mayor and judge oppose the Pope County casino along with the majority of the people. Isn't that enough?

Please change the rules to respect the voters of Pope County who don't want a casino coming to Pope County.

Thanks for your consideration.

*Russell Taylor*

Russell Taylor

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:15 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** Letter  
**Attachments:** image2019-01-28-141554.pdf

Received by mail!

Thank you,  
**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:16 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:57 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Cc:** Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: New Proposed Regulations Governing Casinos in Arkansas

**From:** Anne Stiritz <astiritz@atu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 4:08 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** New Proposed Regulations Governing Casinos in Arkansas

Thank you for allowing us to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. I would like to make the following comments to you all:

1. I agree and support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] concerning the local officials' letters of support. I think that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Mayor, or Quorum Court, at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I also request that the Arkansas Racing Commission takes into consideration the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election. This states that voters of Pope County will have a vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you,

Pope County Residents

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:56 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Cc:** Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Subject: Casino Rules Racing Commission

**From:** Cliff Goodin <cliffgoodin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 2:45 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Subject: Casino Rules Racing Commission

To: Chairman Lieblong and other Commissioners

Thank you for your service to the State of Arkansas, Concerning the proposed casino rules I would like to express my opinion to as stated in paragraph 2.13.4(b) the rule that requires that a support letter for a proposed casino must come from a sitting county judge, Quorum court or mayor at the time the casino application is presented to the Racing Commission. I agree with this rule and recommend that this particular rule remain in place as written through this entire review process of the rules.

Sincerely  
Cliff Goodin  
River Valley Realty  
800 East Main Street  
Russellville, AR. 72801  
Cell 479-970-0215  
Office 479-968-6260  
Fax 479-967-6488

Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:54 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Cc:** Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Casino

**From:** Jack Bradford <jackbradford@suddenlink.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 6:10 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casino

Dear Nikki Langston,

I live, vote, and pay taxes in Pope County. I have lived here for 28 years. I strongly oppose any casino in Pope County that the people who live in the county do not get to directly vote on. My concern is that a county judge or mayor could be bribed, threatened, or coerced into signing that letter. One person signing for the entire county.

On Rule 2: I support that the CURRENT Mayor, Quorum Court, or County Judge be the one who signs and not the previous ones. Although, as stated, I do not believe this goes far enough and should include a local vote.

The whole casino issue was never vetted by the people of Pope County. There were no formal meetings with citizens. It very much appeared to voters that deals were made in secrecy and under the cloak of darkness. Very suspicious and disturbing. A great deal of anger among people who live in Pope County was stirred up because of this.

The amount of money spent by the casino industry was mind boggling. I ask that you would put in some wording that will protect the interests of the people who live and work here.

Thank you,

Shannon Bradford



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Sandi whitlow <sandiwhitlow@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 12:21 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope Countycasino

The citizens of Pope County soundly rejected a casino during the November general election. I ask that you allow us to decide what we want and need. We have a beautiful county and do not want a casino here! Thank you. Sandi Whitlow

Sent from my iPad

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:58 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Smokey Campbell  
**Cc:** Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Pope County casino issue

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sandi whitlow <[sandiwhitlow@aol.com](mailto:sandiwhitlow@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 12:18 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope County casino issue

The voters of Pope County soundly rejected a casino in the November general election. Please stand with our county in the fight against a casino! Thank you, Sandi Whitlow

Sent from my iPad

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 9:58 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston; Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Casino

Just sent to me

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sandi whitlow <sandiwhitlow@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 7:55 AM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Casino

Please uphold the right of the current mayor and judge to deny the casino project in Pope County. The citizens of Pope County soundly rejected the casino during the general election and elected Richard Harris as mayor. Lame duck mayor Randy Horton had no business deciding what we should have.

Sent from my iPad

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Martie Cousar <shortmsjs@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 5:08 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Rule 2 for Pope County Arkansas

Hello,

My name is Martha Cousar and I am a citizen of Pope County. I wanted to thank you for approving the aspect of Rule 2 that lets our current elected officials be the ones that can submit the letter of support for the casino companies. I would also like to ask that you uphold our local ordinance in that we as a county can hold an election to decide if we would like to have a casino in our county, or not.

Thank you for your in depth consideration on this matter. We appreciate your input during this process.

Blessings and be well, Sincerely,

Martha Cousar  
205 Heather Lane  
Russellville, AR

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Jack Bradford <jackbradford@suddenlink.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 6:13 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino

Dear Racing Commission,

I live, vote, and pay taxes in Pope County. I have lived here for 28 years. I strongly oppose any casino in Pope County that the people who live in the county do not get to directly vote on. My concern is that a county judge or mayor could be bribed, threatened, or coerced into signing that letter. One person signing for the entire county.

On Rule 2: I support that the CURRENT Mayor, Quorum Court, or County Judge be the one who signs and not the previous ones. Although, as stated, I do not believe this goes far enough and should include a local vote.

The whole casino issue was never vetted by the people of Pope County. There were no formal meetings with citizens. It very much appeared to voters that deals were made in secrecy and under the cloak of darkness. Very suspicious and disturbing. A great deal of anger among people who live in Pope County was stirred up because of this.

The amount of money spent by the casino industry was mind boggling. I ask that you would put in some wording that will protect the interests of the people who live and work here.

Thank you,

Shannon Bradford

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Janet L. Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 27, 2019 3:12 PM  
**To:** [smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov); [nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov); Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Fwd: Change in Casino Rules in Article 2

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Janet L Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 3:00 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Change in Casino Rules in Article 2  
**To:** <[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Janet L Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 3:00 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Change in Casino Rules in Article 2  
**To:** <[nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Janet L Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 2:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Change in Casino Rules in Article 2  
**To:** <[nikklangstonbfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:nikklangstonbfreeland@mwlaw.com)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Janet L Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 2:55 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Change in Casino Rules in Article 2  
**To:** <[nikkilangstonbfreedom@mwlaw.com](mailto:nikkilangstonbfreedom@mwlaw.com)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Janet L Rye <[janetlrye@gmail.com](mailto:janetlrye@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Change in Casino Rules in Article 2  
**To:** <[smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov)>

Smokey,

I have been a citizen of Pope County my entire life. I am writing this letter to implore you to support the changes in the Article 2 Casino Rules.

The Citizens of Pope County have not only submitted THOUSANDS of signatures AGAINST a Casino being built in Pope County but have also voted AGAINST the Casino proposal in the November 2018 election.

At the time of the election, our elected city officials in office were in support of this Casino AGAINST the will of the people!!!! They have since BEEN VOTED OUT OF OFFICE/RETIRED. Our current elected officials are AGAINST THE PROPOSED Casino and for that reason they were elected. THEIR OPINION MATTERS AND THE SHOULD HAVE THE LAST WORD ON THIS ISSUE.

Studies show that a Casino will bring increased CRIME, DRUGS, POVERTY, HOMELESSNESS, and CARTEL activity to the community.

The Citizens of Pope County have SPOKEN! The city leadership HAVE SPOKEN. I can promise you this....the Citizens of Pope County and elected officials will FIGHT THIS ISSUE TO THEIR LAST BREATH AGAINST THIS ILLEGAL INFILTRATION OF EVIL INTO OUR COMMUNITY.

We will fight this issue in COURT AND NEVER GIVE UP!

This DECISION HAS BEEN VOTED DOWN THROUGH ELECTION AND PETITION AND NOW BY CURRENT LEADERS OF POPE COUNTY.

The FIGHT HAS JUST BEGUN.

Janet L Rye  
479-970-994

Susie Luce

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**From:** Bruce Brown <wbrucebrown@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 27, 2019 8:35 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino Letter of Support

Dear Arkansas Racing Commission Member

My name is Bruce Brown and I am a Pope County resident. I would like to give my support for Rule #2 as it stands. I feel the residents of Pope County overwhelmingly voted to have a choice in the casino issue and this would include a letter of support from the current county judge, not the outgoing judge.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter Bruce Brown



Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 11:19 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Commentary on rules

**From:** Smokey Campbell  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 11:19 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Commentary on rules

**From:** allenjoebblackford1 <allenjoebblackford1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 10, 2019 3:07 PM  
**To:** Smokey Campbell <Smokey.Campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Commentary on rules

To whom it may concern,

I am IN FAVOR of changing the rules to insure that only SITTING officials be allowed to send letters of support to casino companies.

I am AGAINST casinos in Pope county. And AGAINST any elected official who would stab his/her constituents in the back as have Jim Ed Gibson and Randy Horton.

Thank you

Allen Blackford

Susie Luce

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**From:** Amanda Beene <amandamichell1969@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:46 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Rules- Arkansas Racing Commission

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

- 1) I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letter of support stating that only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
- 2) I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of the county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I hope the commission will give weight to the voice of county voters in the application process.

Thank you for your service to the state of Arkansas.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Beene

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jim Clark <jamesgclark@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 09, 2019 3:26 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Casino regulation

We in Pope County would like a say in whether there is a casino or not and urge you to let us speak through our current officials. Please don't force us to accept something we do not want. We voted against the casino and for officials who opposed it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jim Clark

Susie Luce

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**From:** Peggy Foster <peggy72823@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 7:16 AM  
**To:** nikki.fangston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland; smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; Peggy Foster  
**Subject:** Casino Rules-Arkansas Racing Commission

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas.

1. I support the published language of Rule 2[2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support stating that only the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please value the voice of county voters in the application process.

Thank you for your service to the great state of Arkansas

Sincerely, Peggy Foster

Susie Luce

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**From:** Jacyn Marie Ford <reddevils98@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 09, 2019 12:53 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino Proposal

I am strongly strongly against the Casino Proposal for Pope County.

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of the application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Rule 2.13.4(b) " All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Shirley Hankins

Russellville Arkansas

Sent from my iPhone

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:04 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Pope County Casino Proposal

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jacyn Marie Ford <reddevils98@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 09, 2019 12:36 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Pope County Casino Proposal

I am strongly strongly opposed to the Casino proposal for Pope County it goes against my moral and Christian values.

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4 (b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the same time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Rule 2.13.4(b) " All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the Quorum Court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Shirley Hankins  
Russellville Arkansas  
Sent from my iPhone

Susie Luce

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**From:** chad duvall <duvall569@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 07, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Subject:** proposed casino gaming rules and regulations

Dear Racing Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas.

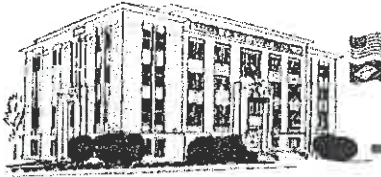
I would like to include these comments for your consideration.

I support the language of rule 2[2.13.49(b)] as it pertains to the local officials' letters of support. I believe that only letters from currently elected County judges, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid.

I ask that the ARC take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that the voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your service to the Sate of Arkansas and your sincere consideration in these matters.

Chad Duvall



# BEN D. CROSS

## POPE COUNTY JUDGE

100 West Main Street Russellville, AR 72801  
(479) 968-7487 Fax (479) 967-6874  
pejudge@suddenlinkmail.com



February 1, 2019

Arkansas Racing Commission  
1515 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 505  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Members of the Commission,

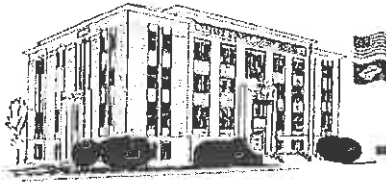
I would like to offer my support of the proposed rules adoption pertaining to the implementation of Amendment 100 to the Arkansas constitution. Specifically, I support the language as proposed for Rule 2.13, Paragraph 4, subsection (b), which defines the manner in which potential gaming vendors submit their applications for licensing.

As the chief executive officer of Pope County, representing over 60,000 residents, and as a constitutional office holder, I feel it is imperative to remain personally neutral on many facets of public service as to maintain the integrity of the office I am sworn to represent. In doing so, I can objectively and respectfully serve the interests of all citizens by representing their majority views. In conversations with the very authors of Issue 4 (*Amendment 100*), it was concisely conveyed to me, the "local option" written into the amendment's wording was purposely placed there to empower the office of county judge, and/or mayor if so required, to have representation in the application process.

In a representative democracy such as ours, it is my obligation to represent and honor the wishes of Pope County residents as exercised by their vote in the November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 general election, even in light of the statewide passage of Amendment 100. In one of the largest Pope County voter turnouts in a decade, I present to you the following:

Pope County Census (2010) -----	61,754
Registered Voters -----	34,481
Ballots Cast on November 6 <sup>th</sup> -----	18,051
General Election Voter Turnout -----	52.35%
Issue 4 (Amendment 100) Results-----	FOR: 7,064 (39.42%)
Under Votes: 134	AGAINST: 10,858 (60.58%)





**BEN D. CROSS**  
**POPE COUNTY JUDGE**

100 West Main Street Russellville, AR 72801  
(479) 968-7487 Fax (479) 967-6874  
pcjudge@suddenlinkmail.com



Accordingly, it my duty to carry the concerns of the majority to you, to make their voices heard, and likewise issue the following executive directive:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Arkansas Constitution and State and local authority, I hereby direct and order that any *'letter of support'* issued by this office pursuant to Arkansas Constitutional Amendment 100, shall only be effective if said *'letter of support'* strictly and expressly complies with the Arkansas Constitution and applicable Arkansas state and local law. Further, said *'letter of support'* must be in strict conformity with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Racing Commission, as amended from time to time. Any *'letter of support'* issued not complying with this directive shall be deemed null and void. This directive shall remain in effect for perpetuity.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ben D. Cross". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Ben D. Cross

POPE COUNTY JUDGE

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:18 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-161934.pdf

Received by mail (Ben Cross)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:20 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission-

Regarding the public comment period of proposed Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations, I would like to make the following comments:

The proposed and published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] is exactly as it should be, and I am in full support of.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

The voters of Pope County spoke very clear on November 6<sup>th</sup> regarding our community's intent of casino gaming and a local control ordinance. The Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

With this email, I have attached 3 important and pertinent items related to a casino in Pope County: A resolution from the Pope County Quorum Court; A resolution from the Russellville City Council; A local news article from previous County Judge regarding his opinion and intention of a letter his office issues prior to the end of 2018. It is very clear that both governing bodies, the county and the city, were not in favor of a local casino without a binding vote of the local residents. It is also clear that the previous County Judge that issued 'a letter' made a public declaration that the intent of his letter was not to be considered a letter of support as required in the Casino Amendment and therefore should not be considered as such by anyone.

Trying to use letters of support from elected officials not in office when the application process initiates and actually begins sets inappropriate precedent and should not be allowed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

NAME: *Allen Brewer*

Pope County Registered Voter

RESOLUTION NO. 1695

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE FOR FAILING TO INCLUDE IN THE AMENDMENT A LOCAL OPTION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY TO HOLD A SEPARATE SUBSEQUENT SPECIAL ELECTION TO HAVE THE FINAL DECISION ON THE APPROVAL OF CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the issuance of four licenses for casino gaming, one (1) of which would be for the geographical area of Pope County, Arkansas, shall be submitted to the voters of the State of Arkansas in the form of a proposed state constitutional amendment to the state constitution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed state constitutional amendment makes no allowance for the input of residents in Pope County or any city in Pope County should the proposed constitutional amendment be passed by the voters of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, believes that the proposed state constitutional amendment should have had a local option which the residents of Pope County or any city in Pope County to be able to have a separate vote by special election to determine locally whether they want casino gaming in Pope County or any city in Pope County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to express its opinion on the matter by this Resolution.

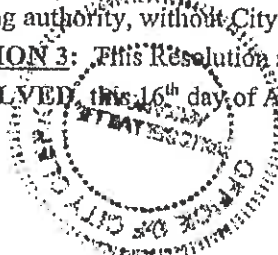
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS, THAT:

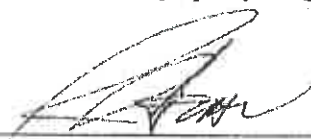
**SECTION 1:** The City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, objects to the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming because of its failure to have a local option for the residents of any city in Pope County, which includes the City of Russellville, to have a separate subsequent special election, should the proposed state constitutional amendment pass in a statewide election, to ultimately determine approval of casino gaming in either Pope County or any city in Pope County.

**SECTION 2:** If the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming passes in the state election but fails in the Pope County election returns, then the City Council request that the Mayor to not issue a "Letter of Support" to the Arkansas Racing Commission or other governing authority, without City Council authorization.

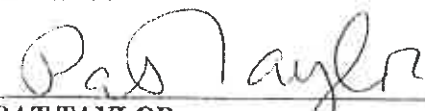
**SECTION 3:** This Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

RESOLVED, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

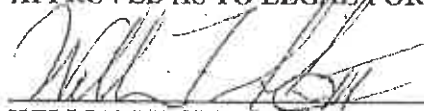


  
RANDY HORTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
PAT TAYLOR,  
CITY CLERK-TREASURER

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

  
WILLIAM F. SMITH III,  
CITY ATTORNEY

I, Pat Taylor, City Clerk-Treasurer of Russellville, Arkansas, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 1694 passed by the City Council of the City of Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-R-6

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING A CASINO IN POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, the issue of a Constitutional Amendment regarding a casino being in Pope County, Arkansas will be voted on by the voters of the State of Arkansas in November, 2018; and

WHEREAS, if the casino passes in a Statewide election, but fails in Pope County, then the Quorum Court encourages the Pope County Judge to not issue a "letter of support" to the Office of Casino Gaming.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS: That the voters of Pope County, Arkansas in the November 2018 election should determine whether or not a casino is built in Pope County, Arkansas.

RESOLVED, this 5 day of July, 2018.

DATE: 7-5-18

APPROVED:

UN-Signed

JIM ED GIBSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

UN-Signed  
LAURA McGUIRE, COUNTY CLERK

VOTES FOR: 12 VOTES AGAINST: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0 PRESENT: 12 ABSENT: 1

A-309

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:22 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-162325.pdf

Received by mail (Allen Brewer)

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:23 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission-

Regarding the public comment period of proposed Casino Gaming Rules & Regulations, I would like to make the following comments:

The proposed and published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] is exactly as it should be, and I am in full support of.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

The voters of Pope County spoke very clear on November 6<sup>th</sup> regarding our community's intent of casino gaming and a local control ordinance. The Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

With this email, I have attached 3 important and pertinent items related to a casino in Pope County: A resolution from the Pope County Quorum Court; A resolution from the Russellville City Council; A local news article from previous County Judge regarding his opinion and intention of a letter his office issues prior to the end of 2018. It is very clear that both governing bodies, the county and the city, were not in favor of a local casino without a binding vote of the local residents. It is also clear that the previous County Judge that issued 'a letter' made a public declaration that the intent of his letter was not to be considered a letter of support as required in the Casino Amendment and therefore should not be considered as such by anyone.

Trying to use letters of support from elected officials not in office when the application process initiates and actually begins sets inappropriate precedent and should not be allowed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

NAME



Pope County Registered Voter

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-R-6

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WHEREAS, the issue of a Constitutional Amendment regarding a casino being in Pope County, Arkansas will be voted on by the voters of the State of Arkansas in November, 2018; and

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RESOLVED, this 5 day of July, 2018.

DATE: 7-5-18

APPROVED:

UA-Signed  
JIM ED GIBSON, COUNTY JUDGE  
DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

UA-Signed  
LAURA MCGUIRE, COUNTY CLERK

VOTES FOR: 12 VOTES AGAINST: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0 PRESENT: 12 ABSENT: 1

A-309



RESOLUTION NO. 1695

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE FOR FAILING TO INCLUDE IN THE AMENDMENT A LOCAL OPTION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY TO HOLD A SEPARATE SUBSEQUENT SPECIAL ELECTION TO HAVE THE FINAL DECISION ON THE APPROVAL OF CASINO GAMING IN THE CITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the issuance of four licenses for casino gaming, one (1) of which would be for the geographical area of Pope County, Arkansas, shall be submitted to the voters of the State of Arkansas in the form of a proposed state constitutional amendment to the state constitution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed state constitutional amendment makes no allowance for the input of residents in Pope County or any city in Pope County should the proposed constitutional amendment be passed by the voters of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, believes that the proposed state constitutional amendment should have had a local option which the residents of Pope County or any city in Pope County to be able to have a separate vote by special election to determine locally whether they want casino gaming in Pope County or any city in Pope County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to express its opinion on the matter by this Resolution.

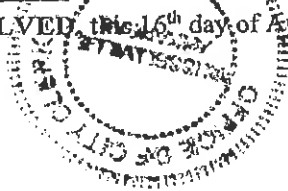
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**SECTION 1:** The City Council of the City of Russellville, Arkansas, objects to the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming because of its failure to have a local option for the residents of any city in Pope County, which includes the City of Russellville, to have a separate subsequent special election, should the proposed state constitutional amendment pass in a statewide election, to ultimately determine approval of casino gaming in either Pope County or any city in Pope County.

**SECTION 2:** If the proposed state constitutional amendment regarding casino gaming passes in the state election but fails in the Pope County election returns, then the City Council request that the Mayor to not issue a "Letter of Support" to the Arkansas Racing Commission or other governing authority, without City Council authorization.


**SECTION 3:** This Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

RESOLVED, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.



  
RANDY HORTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
PAT TAYLOR,  
CITY CLERK-TREASURER

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

  
WILLIAM F. SMITH III,  
CITY ATTORNEY

I, Pat Taylor, City Clerk-Treasurer of Russellville, Arkansas, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 1694 passed by the City Council of the City of Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:20 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbel;  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-162137.pdf

Received by mail (Angela Brewer)

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:22 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

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1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Russellville, Ar

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:17 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-161520.pdf

Received by mail (Danny Johnston)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:15 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

B. Rachel Moore

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:36 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-143424.pdf

Received by mail (Rachel Moore)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:34 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Glen and Debbie Young  
346 Quail Hollow Rd  
Dover, AR 72837

Arkansas Racing Commission  
PO Box 3076  
Little Rock, AR 72203

To Whom it may concern:

We are citizens of Pope County, and strongly oppose having a casino in our area. Thankyou for allowing our comments on the newly proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas.

We want to go on record saying that we support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

Also we ask that the AR Racing Commission take notice of the Pope County Ordinance passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election before any letter of support can be written by an elected official.

Thankyou for considering our heartfelt opinion.

William S. Young

Deborah L. Young

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:39 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-144027.pdf

Received by mail (Young)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:40 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:37 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-143839.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:39 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:41 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-144158.pdf

Received by mail (Barbara Harris)

**Nikki Langston**

**Business Operations Specialist**

**Arkansas Racing Commission**

**Ph: 501-682-1467**

**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:42 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

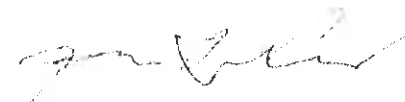
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,



2/1/19

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:45 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-144551.pdf

Received by mail (Crites)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:46 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

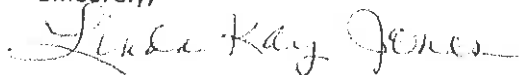
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

 Linda Kay Jones

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:42 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-144341.pdf

Received by mail (Linda Jones)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:44 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

*Thank you for your consideration,  
Wanda S. Murrell*

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:37 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-133741.pdf

Received by mail! (Wanda Minyard)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert E. Gunte".

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:38 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-133948.pdf

Received by mail (Robert Gunter)

**Nikki Langston**

**Business Operations Specialist**

**Arkansas Racing Commission**

**Ph: 501-682-1467**

**Fax: 501-682-5273**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie M. Jarman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Bonnie M. Jarman".

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:41 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-134135.pdf

Received by mail (Bonnie Jarman)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

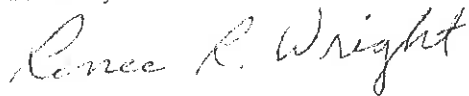
**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:42 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Dear Arkansas Racing Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Sincerely,



Concerned Pope County Citizen

Additional comments:

**Susie Luce**

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:44 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-134525.pdf

Received by mail (Renee Wright)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:45 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



1/30/2019

Racing Commission

**Dear Racing commission:**

I am a resident of Pope County and I would like to show support for the recent change of the language to require the show of support for a Casino to be from the current Mayor and Judge at the time the application is submitted.

I do not support a Casino because I have lived in a city with Casinos, however, IF the majority of Pope County citizens supported it, I believe that the Judge and Major should also. I feel like the way the exiting Mayor and Judge crammed their choice down the citizen's throats at the twelfth hour, made the Racing Commission look dirty and as though there were "backroom payoffs" going on.

Regardless of the past, if Gulfside thinks that a Casino would be so wonderful in Pope County, why are those so intimidated to present their wonderful deal to the current Mayor, Judge and citizens of Pope County. The Mayor and Judge of Pope County have given their word to support what the people support.

Thank you for trying to make things right by changing the language.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Eshnaur", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lori Eshnaur

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:53 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-135033.pdf

Received by mail (Lori Eshnaur)

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:51 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

01/25/2019

Dear Racing Commission and Staff,

I greatly appreciate you taking the time to read this letter. I cannot give my name because I attend a local church in Russellville with many of our local elected officials. Our preacher openly speaks against the casino and our previous mayor so while many of us do not agree with him about the casino, we cannot openly support it because of the shame that could occur. I love my church, but this should be a separate issue entirely. I am writing you to ask you to accept Judge Gibson's letter. He is a good man who would not have signed anything that could hurt us as a community. We need jobs and we need financial growth.

Thank you so much and may God be with you as you make your decision.

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:47 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-06-134720.pdf

Received by mail!

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:47 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 11:02 AM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Casino Regulations

**From:** Jane Harrell <jane\_harrell@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino Regulations

Racing Commissioners,

I am a resident of the city of Russellville in Pope County and am writing to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas.

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Jane Harrell

Sent from Outlook

Susie Luce

---

**From:** john ellis <johnandjudyellis@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:36 PM  
**To:** smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov; nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov; Byron Freeland  
**Cc:** johnandjudyellis@centurytel.net  
**Subject:** Arkansas Racing Commission from Judith N. Ellis

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

February 5, 2019

Thank you for the opportunity (and privilege) to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4 (b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election of support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours truly,  
Judith N. Ellis  
450 Cliff Road  
Russellville, AR 72802  
479-890-5815  
Birthdate: January 21, 1939  
BCC and CC to myself, via the above email address

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:53 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW: Support of proposed language of Rule 2

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mark <mlykins@gracefellows.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:15 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Subject:** Support of proposed language of Rule 2

Ms. Langston, my name is Mark Lykins. I am a registered voter in Pope County and am writing to express my support of the language concerning rule 2 which would require that a letter of support from a county judge, quorum court or mayor will only be valid when written on or after the time of the submission of the application for a casino license in Pope County.

My reasons for the support for this is as follows:

The people of Pope County have voted twice on this issue. And we have voted no to the casino. Pope county voted against casino gambling here by a greater margin than any other county in the state of Arkansas. Further, the people of Pope County voted on and passed a local ordinance which would require a vote of the people of Pope County before any letter of support could be issued by the appropriate county or city officials. There is too much money at stake to place any decision of this impact in the hands of one or two people. Sixty eight percent of the voters in the last election voted in favor of this local ordinance.

Now, having clearly expressed it's will, the people of Pope County were ignored by a Mayor who was defeated because he was unwilling to express opposition to a casino here (because he was actually in favor) and a County Judge who was a lame duck and not running for re-election. Both of these elected officials have acted in the interest of casinos in Mississippi instead of the the expressed will of the voters of Pope county. This is outrageous. In my lifetime this is unprecedented. At some point along in the governing process, surely someone who is supposed to represent the people of Pope County will. I am asking you to.

Thank you for your time.

Mark Lykins

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This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.  
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

*Danny Mizell*



Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:17 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141824.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:18 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Dear Racing Commission,

My name is Maria and I am an immigrant who just received my American citizenship. I work for a small business in Russellville and see the value in adding a casino for our town. We need more business and our town needs more opportunities. I have four children, one of which is already in college. The financial burden of college on a family of six is difficult. If there is even a small chance my child can benefit from these scholarships, I believe the casino is a positive thing. Please honor the former judge's letter in support to the casino. Our new administration is not interested in helping our town with this matter, so the previous Judge and Mayor are our only hope. Thank you so much,

Maria Gatica

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:19 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-142006.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:20 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

ARKANSAS RACING COMMISSION:

THANK YOU for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing gambling in Arkansas. Specifically, I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2. {2.12.4(b)} regarding the local official's letters of support, in re: only letters from recently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.
2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by over 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Emails can be sent to:

[Smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Smokey.campbell@dfa.arkansas.gov)

[Nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)

[bfreeland@mwlaw.com](mailto:bfreeland@mwlaw.com)

Snail mail can be sent to:

Arkansas Racing Commission,

PO Box 3076,

Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:15 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141502.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:15 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Shirley Britton*

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:16 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141722.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:17 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Dear Racing Commission,

I wanted to write you on the matter of the casino issue in Pope County. I have lived in many places where there has been casinos. Yes, crime is impacted but statistics show that the percentage is low. However, the economical impact of it is tremendous. In Pope County, you work for minimum wage, at a factory or an office. The jobs at the factories normally go through temp. agencies, which means the workers do not receive the benefits or regular pay. It has been my experience that casinos pay well and the tips are great. I am in support of the letters that have already been submitted from the former Mayor and judge. These are the officials that laid the foundation and ground work to establish the connections to make this happen. The people of Arkansas voted and the vote states that Pope County will receive a



casino. Now, if the newly elected judge and Mayor are not in support of the casino, it should be built outside the city limits of Russellville. I was reading another citizens letter and he said that the ones opposing the casino are the very ones going to other states and gambling. I tend to agree with the statement. I am asking that the casino come to Pope County, either inside or outside of the city limits of Russellville.

Sincerely,

Lyle Bantka

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:12 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141315.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:13 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Dear Racing Commission,

I am a concerned contractor from Russellville. Judge Gibson was sure to get a commitment from the casino operators that they would use local contractors and businesses when and where they could. This gives me and other contractors a chance to get those big jobs. Never again will Russellville get a 200 million dollar project where funds will stay with local builders, laborers, and families. This is the kind of property that people in my industry take pride in. This is one of those properties you would drive by and show your kid and say "Hey son, I built that." Please leave Judge Gibson's letter of support alone. This could help so many people, like my family and my kids.

Thanks,

Russellville citizen

**Susie Luce**

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:09 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141008.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:10 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

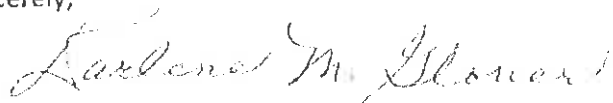
1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karlene M. Blount".

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:10 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-141127.pdf

Received my mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:11 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**

Arkansas Racing Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Specifically I would like to make the following comments:

1. I support the published language of Rule 2 [2.13.4(b)] regarding the local officials' letters of support: only letters from the currently elected County Judge, Quorum Court, or Mayor at the time of application should be considered as valid letters of support.

2. I request that the Arkansas Racing Commission take note of the Pope County Ordinance, passed by 68% of county voters in the November election, which states that voters of Pope County shall vote by an election in support of a casino applicant before any letter of support can be written by a currently elected County Judge or Quorum Court.

RULE 2.13.4(b) "All casino applicants for a casino license in Pope County and Jefferson County are required to submit either a letter of support from the county judge or a resolution from the quorum court in the county where the proposed casino is to be located and, if the proposed casino is to be located within a city or town, are also required to submit a letter of support from the mayor in the city or town where the casino applicant is proposing the casino to be located. All letters of support or resolutions by the Quorum Court, required by these Rules and the Amendment, shall be dated and signed by the County Judge, Quorum Court members, or Mayor holding office at the time of the submission of an application for a casino gaming license."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed regulations governing casinos in Arkansas. Your consideration and time is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*James C. Doney*

Susie Luce

---

**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:07 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-140823.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:08 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**



Dear Racing Commission,

We are anonymously writing you regarding the casino in Pope County. After other business owners in town were exposed by the Democrat Gazette, they have received back lash that we cannot afford. The small group that is so against the casino, works hard to intimidate those that are for it. Although we are not willing to include our names or business, we are very willing to give you our opinions on a casino in Pope County.

Arkansas voted to increase minimum wage and for a casino in Pope County. These things potentially help each other. If my business gets a small increase of business from the casino, this helps me be able to so drastically increase our minimum wage. If we do not get the casino that was voted on, this will be far harder to achieve.

The new administration has no intention of honoring the Arkansan vote for casinos. If you change the rules to only honor current elected officials, Pope county will never get a casino that the rest of the state wanted. Raising minimum wage is very hard for small business owners, but the glimmer of hope the casino promises could make this situation far less difficult.

Please do not change the rules so that Judge Gibson and Mayor Horton's letter will no longer be valid. We need this and they knew it.

Thank you,

A concerned Pope County business owner

01/26/2019

Susie Luce

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**From:** Nikki Langston <Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:05 PM  
**To:** Byron Freeland; Susie Luce  
**Cc:** Smokey Campbell  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** image2019-02-05-140705.pdf

Received by mail.

**Nikki Langston**  
**Business Operations Specialist**  
**Arkansas Racing Commission**  
**Ph: 501-682-1467**  
**Fax: 501-682-5273**

**From:** [DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov) <[DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:DoNotReply@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:07 PM  
**To:** Nikki Langston <[Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:Nikki.Langston@dfa.arkansas.gov)>  
**Subject:**