

**RESOLUTION # 021801-02**  
**OPPOSITION TO SAULT TRIBE AND BAY MILLS GAMING EXPANSION**  
**INTO LOWER PENINSULA**

**WHEREAS** the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) historically inhabited, and remains headquartered in the Little Traverse Bay area of northern lower Michigan in what is now Emmet and Charlevoix Counties, Michigan. The 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) and 1855 Treaty of Detroit (11 Stat. 621) reserved reservations for LTBB in approximately two thirds of Emmet County, northern Charlevoix County, and Garden and High Islands in Charlevoix County;

**WHEREAS** the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Bay Mills Indian Community historically inhabited, and remain headquartered in what is now northern Chippewa County in the Sault Ste. Marie area of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Reservations, if any, reserved for one or both of those tribes in the 1836 Treaty of Washington and 1855 Treaty of Detroit are located in what is now the Sault Ste. Marie vicinity of Michigan's Upper Peninsula;

**WHEREAS** the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians currently owns and operates five casinos under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, including two major facilities in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace, and additional satellite facilities in Christmas, Manistique and Hessel. Additionally, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians owns and operates a massive facility in Detroit's Greektown under State law;

**WHEREAS** the Bay Mills Indian Community currently owns and operates a substantial casino/resort on its reservation in Brimley Michigan, and an additional smaller facility elsewhere on its Brimley reservation;

**WHEREAS** in contrast to the State/Tribal class III gaming compacts of the Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie tribes which allow them to operate these multiple facilities, LTBB's State/Tribal class III gaming compact limits LTBB to a single class III gaming site. LTBB owns and operates its single facility in a converted bowling alley just outside of Petoskey, Michigan;

**WHEREAS** LTBB is at a further competitive disadvantage compared to the Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie tribes because LTBB's Compact requires an 8% payment of net revenues to the State of Michigan, whereas the Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie tribe are no longer required to make any payment to the State;

**WHEREAS** the Bay Mills Indian Community has taken legal and political steps to pursue the development of a class III gaming operation in Vanderbilt, Michigan, in the Lower

Peninsula in very close proximity to LTBB's 1855 Treaty reservation. Such facility would have a drastic negative impact on LTBB's single modest operation;

**WHEREAS** the Sault Ste. Marie tribe has also taken legal and political steps to pursue the development of a class III gaming operation in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan in Gaylord, also in very close proximity to LTBB's 1855 Treaty Reservation. Such facility would also have a drastic negative impact on LTBB's single modest operation;

**WHEREAS** there is absolutely no good faith moral or legal justification to allow this expansion of the Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie tribes' gaming operations into the Lower Peninsula;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians staunchly opposes federal legislation to allow the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and/or the Bay Mills Indian Community to expand their gaming operations into the Lower Peninsula.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians staunchly opposes any trust land acquisitions for the Bay Mills Indian Community and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the Lower Peninsula that could possibly be used for gaming.

**Certification**

As Tribal Chairman and Tribal Secretary, the undersigned certify that this Resolution was duly adopted by the Tribal Council of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians at a regular meeting of the Tribal Council held on February 18, 2001 at which a quorum was present, by a vote of six (6) in favor, zero (0) opposed and zero (0) abstentions as recorded by this roll call.

	In Favor	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
George Anthony	✓	_____	_____	_____
Gerald Chingwa	✓	_____	_____	_____
Dorothy Gasco	✓	_____	_____	_____
Janet Shomin	✓	_____	_____	_____
Susan Wysocki	✓	_____	_____	_____
Alice Yellowbank	✓	_____	_____	_____

Date: 2-18-01

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Gerald Chingwa, Tribal Chairman *U*

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Susan Wysocki, Tribal Secretary