



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SENATOR WILTON SIMPSON
President

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators and Senate Professional Staff
FROM: Wilton Simpson
SUBJECT: Special Session on Gaming
DATE: May 5, 2021

As you are aware, on April 23, 2021, Governor DeSantis and the Seminole Tribe of Florida executed a historic new thirty year gaming Compact that restores the State's relationship with the Tribe, preserves and offers new opportunities for Florida's legacy pari-mutuel industry, and provides substantial new revenues for the State of Florida.

Speaker Sprowls and I previously announced our agreement to convene the Legislature in a Special Session the week of May 17, 2021, for the purpose of considering legislation to ratify and implement provisions of the new Compact. The joint proclamation, filed today with the Secretary of State is attached for your reference, along with a draft weekly schedule to give you an idea of what to expect when we return to Tallahassee. Please remember that we are coordinating with the House, and Senators need to plan to stay in Tallahassee until both Chambers adjourn Sine Die. The Secretary will send travel authorization information in a separate communication.

In the coming days, Chair Hutson will introduce several pieces of legislation for consideration during the special session, which together achieve a number of objectives related to the implementation of various provisions of the Compact, and the future of gaming in our state. While not all Senators serve on Committee on Appropriations, all Senators are encouraged to review the Compact and related bills in advance and to sit in on Monday's committee meeting, either in person, or remotely, in order to be informed when legislation reaches the floor on Tuesday.

Thank you very much for your attention to these important issues. I look forward to seeing you in Tallahassee later this month.