

Indian Gaming In California

by Richard Wilson

Abstract

Indian tribes are permitted by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 to offer any types of gambling allowed by any others in a state. The result has been an explosion of tribal gambling and legal conflicts between California and the gambling tribes. The state contends that some lucrative games offered by tribal casinos are illegal both under state and federal law, but it has been unable to enforce.

The legal differences between the State and tribes are in an ambiguous state now. Some legal issues still need to be clarified by Congress or the courts. It is also not clear what remedies the state has in the absence of federal intervention.