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**Press Release
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For Immediate Release**

Today, the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) filed the necessary paperwork to remove the Commonwealth's lawsuit against the Tribe from state court to federal court. "As expected, the Patrick Administration continues to insist that the Tribe has no rights to game under Federal Law. As we have continuously stated, the Tribe has never expressly given up our right to conduct gaming, which is why we sought and received the necessary approvals and legal opinions from the appropriate federal agencies confirming our rights. Therefore the questions raised by the lawsuit are questions of federal law, which are properly resolved in federal court" stated Aquinnah Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais.

"Our Tribe has consistently maintained that we enjoy rights to game under federal law. Federal court is the appropriate venue for this case to be heard and the Tribe will vigorously defend our rights." stated Aquinnah Chairman-elect Tobias Vanderhoop.

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