

California Governor signed gaming agreements with tribal leaders

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians along with two other tribes reached the end of a campaign to expand their tribal casinos when the governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed bills ratifying revised gambling agreements.

The four bills signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger will allow the Agua Caliente and Morongo tribes alone to add up to 8,500 new slot machines.

Together the revised agreements will allow the four tribes that also include the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians and the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation to add a total of 17,000 new slot machines.

Collectively under the old compacts those tribes could operate up to a total of 8,000 slot machines. After lengthy, and sometimes intense, negotiations with the governor and the Legislature, tribal leaders said they were pleased to reach the end of their bid to meet growing demand.