SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE	UNITED STATES
		-
YSLETA	DEL SUR PUEBLO, ET AL.,)
	Petitioners,)
	v.) No. 20-493
TEXAS,)
	Respondent.)
		_

Pages: 1 through 98

Place: Washington, D.C.

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6	TEXAS,)
7	Respondent.)
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10	Washington, D.C.	
11	Tuesday, February 22, 2	2022
12		
13	The above-entitled matter	came on for
14	oral argument before the Supreme	Court of the
15	United States at 10:00 a.m.	
16		
17	APPEARANCES:	
18	BRANT C. MARTIN, ESQUIRE, Fort Wo	orth, Texas; on behalf
19	of the Petitioners.	
20	ANTHONY A. YANG, Assistant to the	e Solicitor General,
21	Department of Justice, Washin	ngton, D.C.; for the
22	United States, as amicus cur	iae, supporting the
23	Petitioners.	
24	LANORA C. PETTIT, Principal Deput	ty Solicitor General,
25	Austin, Texas; on behalf of t	the Respondent.

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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(10:00 a.m.)
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: We'll hear
4	argument first this morning in Ysleta del Sur
5	Pueblo versus Texas.
6	Mr. Martin.
7	ORAL ARGUMENT OF BRANT C. MARTIN
8	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS
9	MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chief Justice, and
10	may it please the Court:
11	The question this case presents is
12	whether the Restoration Act subjects the Pueblo
13	to Texas's time, place, and manner restrictions
14	as it relates to games that Texas does not
15	flatly prohibit.
16	It does not. In the Restoration Act,
17	Congress codified the Cabazon Band framework and
18	specifically foreclosed Texas's regulatory
19	authority over the tribe's gaming activities.
20	The plain language of the Act provides
21	us with clear support for this interpretation.
22	On the heels of this Court's decision in
23	Cabazon, Congress changed the language of the
24	Restoration Act to replicate the prohibitory/
25	regulatory dichotomy struck in Cabazon. Section

- 1 107(a) incorporates the Cabazon framework. It
- 2 federalizes Texas law but only as to prohibited
- 3 games. And bingo, in the State of Texas, is not
- 4 a prohibited game.
- 5 Section 107(b) clearly forecloses any
- 6 interpretation of Section 107 in its entirety
- 7 where Texas would have regulatory jurisdiction
- 8 over tribal gaming. And Section 107(b) must
- 9 have meaning in the Act.
- The problem with the State of Texas's
- 11 interpretation and the Fifth Circuit's
- 12 interpretation in Ysleta I is that it reads
- 13 107(b) out of the Act entirely.
- 14 This interpretation is also consistent
- 15 with Congress's extension of the Cabazon
- 16 framework to IGRA. The two statutes are not in
- 17 conflict, and you don't have to choose one over
- 18 the other. And even if that were the case, and
- 19 we don't think it is, the plain language of the
- 20 Restoration Act allows my client to engage in
- 21 non-prohibited gaming activities.
- 22 In Sections 107(a) and 107(b),
- 23 Congress was sending the clear signal that it
- 24 was incorporating the prohibitory/regulatory
- 25 construct from Cabazon into a test applicable to

- 1 these tribes. The final text of the Restoration
- 2 Act reflects the bargain that Congress struck.
- 3 Each side got something but not everything.
- 4 Texas was allowed to prevent
- 5 prohibited games from being played by these
- 6 tribes. Meanwhile, the tribe was allowed to
- 7 retain its sovereignty and its freedom from
- 8 regulation as it related to gaming activities.
- 9 And, with that, I'd be pleased to
- 10 answer any questions from the Court.
- 11 JUSTICE THOMAS: Yes, counsel, the --
- in the -- Cabazon was a grant of jurisdiction,
- 13 right?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE THOMAS: Is there any
- 16 difference -- where -- is there a grant of
- 17 jurisdiction in 107(a)?
- 18 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, looking at
- 19 the text of 107(a), it's specifically dealing
- 20 with the tribal gaming activities. There's not
- 21 a specific reference to the grant of the
- 22 jurisdiction.
- JUSTICE THOMAS: So what do -- just
- standing alone, what do you think it's doing?
- MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I think it's

- 1 dictating -- it's showing that Congress was
- 2 extending the Cabazon framework to this fact
- 3 pattern where Congress was federalizing state
- 4 law as to prohibited gaming activities.
- JUSTICE THOMAS: So --
- 6 MR. MARTIN: It's taking the Public
- 7 Law 280 structure that was explicated in Cabazon
- 8 and extending it to this fact pattern.
- 9 JUSTICE THOMAS: So exactly how does
- 10 it -- how is it doing that?
- 11 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, in the text
- 12 itself, the first sentence: "All gaming
- activities which are prohibited by the laws of
- 14 the State of Texas are hereby prohibited on the
- 15 reservation and on the lands of the tribes."
- 16 JUSTICE THOMAS: That seems almost as
- 17 though it's adopting it as federal law.
- MR. MARTIN: It's adopting Texas's
- 19 prohibitory laws as to prohibited gaming
- 20 activities. It's -- one of the things that's
- interesting, Your Honor, is that, compared to
- 22 previous versions of this Act, this final -- one
- of the final changes in Section 108 was changing
- it from "gaming" and "gambling" and those
- 25 broader terms to the concept of "gaming

- 1 activities" and specifying prohibited gaming
- 2 activities.
- JUSTICE THOMAS: Thank you.
- 4 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, I mean,
- 5 you say that 107 was enacted in light of
- 6 Cabazon. But it was directly enacted in light
- 7 of the tribal resolution, which said that the
- 8 tribe was willing at this point, after all the
- 9 back and forth -- they obviously weren't happy
- 10 about it, but they were willing to provide that
- all gaming, gambling, lottery, bingo shall be
- 12 prohibited. All, regardless of whether there's
- some that's permitted and some that's -- that's
- 14 not according to the laws of -- of Texas.
- So, I mean, this is an odd case. I
- 16 haven't seen in decades briefs that were so full
- of legislative history and, you know,
- 18 pre-enactment this or post-enactment that, but,
- 19 I mean, if that's what we're going to -- if
- that's the game that's on, I mean, it looks to
- 21 me like the tribal resolution had a much more
- 22 direct connection to the legislation that was
- 23 actually passed.
- MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, if I may, I
- 25 think the tribal resolution had a much more

- direct connection to previous versions of it.
- 2 And I would agree with you there's a lot of
- 3 legislative history in here, and some of it's
- 4 legislative history and some of it is almost
- 5 textual evolution on what was actually enacted.
- And one of the things that I would
- 7 point out to Your Honor is the tribal
- 8 resolution, which, again, was dated March 16th
- 9 of 1986, that total ban or what the State of
- 10 Texas calls the "operative request" -- and --
- 11 and that would have been a total ban. There --
- 12 there's no way to deny that.
- 13 However, that part of the text was
- 14 incorporated into the Restoration Act into a
- version that never actually passed, and that was
- 16 a version that was set forth in its -- this is
- in our brief on page 9, Your Honor -- that
- version was September 23rd of 1986. Now that's
- 19 interesting because Cabazon comes down and
- 20 Cabazon is handed down on February 25th, 1987,
- 21 so well after that version which reflected the
- 22 tribal resolution was handed down. After --
- 23 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, do you
- think the law would have been passed without the
- 25 tribal resolution, regardless of the particular

- 1 form that it was enacted?
- 2 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I think I'm
- 3 focused on the law that was actually passed and
- 4 the changes that were made by Congress. I -- I
- 5 don't know that I want to speculate on what
- 6 would have happened or would not have happened.
- 7 All I know is I have the text that -- we have
- 8 the text that we have.
- 9 And -- and the point that I was going
- 10 to make was the final version of it is the one
- 11 that -- no one here thinks that the final
- version in 107(a) is a total ban. There's no
- way you can construct it to where it reflects a
- 14 total ban.
- 15 So it can't reflect what Texas calls
- 16 the "operative request." It has to mean
- 17 something else. And the final changes that were
- made to 107(a) talk about the prohibited gaming
- 19 activities, and that's a different story than
- 20 the prohibited gaming.
- 21 And, Your Honor, if I may --
- JUSTICE ALITO: Well --
- 23 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I don't know
- 24 --
- JUSTICE ALITO: Go ahead.

1	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I was just
2	going to say I don't know who you're including
3	in everybody here, but it says prohibited. And
4	just I mean, if you had under Texas law,
5	you can have bingo games sort of up to \$100 at
6	stake, okay, and then what what's happening
7	is the tribe is having bingo games up to \$1,000.
8	Now, if you told somebody that, that
9	they have games up to \$1,000, it would be
10	perfectly natural for that person to say, well,
11	that's prohibited because there's a \$100 cap.
12	MR. MARTIN: Your Honor
13	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: And you would
14	tell me that, no, you would say they would be
15	able to, you know, gam have the bingo games
16	up to \$1,000.
17	MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, those are the
18	exact type of restrictions that this Court
19	analyzed in Cabazon and determined to be
20	regulatory. And we believe that that's the
21	exact same application that Congress was
22	JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, suppose that
23	that's right, Mr. Martin, but I think what the
24	Chief Justice is suggesting is that it's not the
25	normal term use of the term "prohibited."

- 1 What you're really relying on is the idea that
- 2 Cabazon turns this language into a kind of term
- 3 of art and that Congress was aware of that and
- 4 that when Congress used the word "prohibited" it
- 5 was incorporating this distinction that had been
- 6 made in Cabazon. And let's say that your
- 7 argument really does depend on that. It's not
- 8 the normal use of the word "prohibited." It's a
- 9 Cabazon use of the word "prohibited."
- 10 So then the question is, what's your
- 11 best evidence that this Court -- that the --
- 12 that Congress, when it passed this statute,
- really did have Cabazon in mind rather than was
- using the normal use of the word "prohibited"?
- MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, first of all,
- 16 I -- I think that under Williams versus Taylor,
- 17 we certainly can assume that Congress was taking
- 18 language from one of this Court's opinions and
- incorporating it, especially in the exact same
- 20 context of Indian gaming, and that they knew
- 21 what it meant.
- The second aspect on how I would
- answer your question, Your Honor, is that under
- 24 107(a), we set up the prohibited structure and
- 25 then, in 107(b), we set up the restriction on

- 1 Texas's regulation. And I think that that
- 2 clearly evidences --
- JUSTICE KAGAN: I don't really see
- 4 107(b) as doing that. I mean, if I look at
- 5 107(b), it seems to me like much more of kind of
- 6 the mirror image or flip side of 107(c) that
- 7 says, you know, the federal courts have
- 8 jurisdiction in -- in 107(c), and in 107(b), it
- 9 says the state courts don't have jurisdiction.
- 10 Why shouldn't -- so, on -- on that
- 11 reading, 107(b) doesn't really help you, does
- 12 it?
- MR. MARTIN: I -- I think 107(b) helps
- us greatly, Your Honor, and I think that's the
- issue that we had with the Fifth Circuit's
- 16 opinion.
- 17 Regulatory jurisdiction within 107(b)
- is hearkening back to the -- the broader term of
- 19 the state's inability to tax, regulate, license.
- 20 It's the Bryan versus Itasca County test. They
- 21 don't have that regulatory authority.
- Whereas, in 107(c), in the title
- 23 alone, it says jurisdiction over enforcement. I
- 24 don't think that you can combine -- and this is
- 25 where I -- I respectfully disagree with -- with

- 1 my friends from the State of Texas. I don't
- 2 think you can combine 107(b) to say that's
- 3 enforcement. I think that's confusing
- 4 jurisdiction with the --
- 5 JUSTICE KAGAN: Could -- could we go
- 6 back to the first way you answered the question?
- 7 Because your first sentence was something like,
- 8 you know, we presume that Congress knows about
- 9 the law. And, you know, sometimes we do, and
- 10 then again, sometimes we don't.
- Do -- do you have a view of -- of --
- of when we should make that presumption and why
- this case fits within that sphere?
- MR. MARTIN: My view, Your Honor,
- 15 would be that if Congress is using the exact
- same language, such as the use of the word
- 17 "prohibit," you can then dictate that, whether
- 18 you call it a term of art or using the same term
- in the exact same context --
- JUSTICE BARRETT: Counsel, "prohibit,"
- though, how many times does "prohibit" appear in
- 22 the Code, and -- and, you know, one of the
- 23 briefs counted how many times. I mean, it's not
- 24 a term of art in that sense, right?
- 25 MR. MARTIN: It is a term of art, Your

- 1 Honor, when it's six months after Cabazon and
- 2 you're talking about Indian gaming. That --
- 3 that would be the distinction I would make.
- I believe that the cite that they gave
- 5 you, and that was the State of Texas's brief, it
- 6 talked about it appearing 8,800 times.
- 7 JUSTICE ALITO: But what would they
- 8 have -- if you were in Congress and you were
- 9 aware of Cabazon and you wanted to use
- 10 "prohibited" in the normal sense of the word and
- 11 you said, well, I'm afraid that if I use this
- word "prohibited," people are going to think it
- has the Cabazon meaning, what would you have --
- 14 how would you have written this?
- 15 MR. MARTIN: Well, Your Honor, I -- if
- 16 I -- I would answer it by saying I think that
- we're talking just about "prohibited" and the
- 18 use of the word "prohibited." We also need to
- 19 see what it modifies, which is prohibited gaming
- 20 activities, because that was another change --
- JUSTICE ALITO: Well, maybe what --
- MR. MARTIN: -- that affected Cabazon.
- JUSTICE ALITO: -- what synonym would
- 24 you have used? All gaming activities which are
- what? I better say forbidden, I shouldn't say

- 1 prohibited? Is that the argument?
- 2 MR. MARTIN: I -- Your Honor, my
- 3 submission would be that by using the word
- 4 "prohibited" in 107(a) and then using no
- 5 regulatory jurisdiction in 107(b), that it was
- 6 clear that they were intending to implicate
- 7 Cabazon.
- 8 JUSTICE BARRETT: So do you lose
- 9 without Cabazon?
- MR. MARTIN: No, Your Honor, I don't
- 11 think you lose without Cabazon.
- 12 JUSTICE BARRETT: So, if you take
- 13 Cabazon out and were just looking at the
- ordinary meanings of these words, "prohibited"
- and "regulatory jurisdiction," you think you
- 16 still win?
- MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, to prohibit
- 18 under the ordinary meaning is to forbid. Bingo
- 19 is not forbidden --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Counsel --
- 21 MR. MARTIN: -- in the State of Texas.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- counsel, why
- are you relying just on Cabazon? Bryan, in
- 24 1976, used the dichotomy of prohibited versus
- 25 regulatory, correct --

- 1 MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- and said, in
- 3 the Indian context, regulatory doesn't mean
- 4 prohibited, correct?
- 5 MR. MARTIN: Absolutely. Yes, Your
- 6 Honor.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So you're not
- 8 talking about six months before. You're talking
- 9 about 10 years before.
- 10 MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor. Certain
- 11 --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: And, secondly, why
- are you not pointing to the examples of
- legislation passed on the same day as the
- 15 Restoration Act?
- The Winnepaug passed the very same day
- 17 and it used regulations, those laws and
- 18 regulations which prohibit or regulate. The
- 19 Seminole, also passed in 1987, also talked about
- 20 prohibiting and regulating. Correct?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes. Yes, Your Honor.
- When Congress wants to use the word
- "regulations" in this context, it certainly can
- 24 -- it certainly knows how to.
- JUSTICE ALITO: Mr. Martin --

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1
               MR. MARTIN: It was the quinte- --
 2
               JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: It showed you it
 3
     did.
 4
               MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor.
                JUSTICE GORSUCH: Counsel, could I
 5
 6
      just ask, if you were to prevail, would Indian
7
     gaming be completely free for all, or would
      there still be -- would the Pueblos still be
 8
 9
     subject to IGRA?
10
               MR. MARTIN: We believe that the
11
     proper reading of the Restoration Act is that
12
     the Pueblo would still be subject to IGRA.
      one of the other issues we have with --
13
14
                JUSTICE GORSUCH: And so what --
15
               MR. MARTIN: -- the official --
16
               JUSTICE GORSUCH: -- what's the upshot
17
     of that? As I -- as I understand it, bingo may
     be allowed, for example, but blackjack wouldn't.
18
      Is that -- is that -- is that about right?
19
20
     Class III gaming would still be forbidden?
21
                MR. MARTIN:
                             In a general sense, yes,
22
     Your Honor, Class III would still be subject to
23
      either a negotiation of a compact with the
24
      state, or they would only be allowed to engage
25
      in Class II gaming under IGRA supervised by the
```

- 1 NIGC.
- 2 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Okay. And then one
- 3 more quick question for you. I -- I -- I
- 4 understand that there's an Ex Parte Young
- 5 possibility of -- of jurisdiction here against
- 6 the governor of the tribe. But is the tribe
- 7 itself waiving sovereign immunity? Is it before
- 8 us?
- 9 MR. MARTIN: I don't believe that that
- 10 issue is before you, Your Honor, and I'm
- 11 hesitant to waive sovereign immunity when that
- issue hasn't been briefed.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Well, I'm not asking
- 14 you to waive sovereign immunity at -- at -- at
- 15 the podium. That would be a bit much.
- 16 (Laughter.)
- 17 MR. MARTIN: Yeah.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: So it's safe to say
- 19 we're here proceeding just against the
- 20 governors, is -- is that -- is that right?
- MR. MARTIN: I believe that's right,
- 22 Your Honor.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Thank you.
- 24 Appreciate it.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Can I go to that

- 1 question, follow up on it? There seems to be a
- 2 dispute whether this type of bingo by machine is
- 3 the same as the bingo we know, people in a room
- 4 calling out numbers.
- 5 You dispute that. You say it's the
- 6 same. But assuming that there's -- and I do --
- 7 that there's a genuine dispute on that issue,
- 8 that still would be subject to federal
- 9 jurisdiction, a court would then decide below
- whether this type of slot machine is actually
- 11 bingo, correct?
- MR. MARTIN: Well, Your Honor, first,
- you know, we would obviously dispute that it's a
- 14 slot machine. But, if Texas continued -- if
- 15 this Court remands it back down to the trial
- 16 court for a finding, Texas brought -- continued
- its action under 107(c) for an injunction, the
- 18 federal trial court would determine whether or
- 19 not it was a prohibited gaming activity under
- 20 Section 107(a).
- 21 And I'm trying to be very careful and
- 22 precise with my words here. Whether or not
- that's bingo, whether or not that's not bingo, I
- 24 think that there's a number of factors that
- 25 would factor into the consideration by the trial

- 1 court, but that would be under the federal
- 2 court's jurisdiction.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: Mr. Martin, could I
- 4 take you back to Justice Gorsuch's question
- 5 about IGRA? If -- if you prevail, the tribe is
- 6 regulated under IGRA.
- 7 I take it 107(c) would still separate
- 8 out Texas from other states, is that correct --
- 9 MR. MARTIN: To a certain extent --
- 10 JUSTICE KAGAN: -- in your view?
- MR. MARTIN: -- yes, Your Honor. The
- 12 third sentence of 107(c), it -- it has a very
- interesting construction. It's not -- you can't
- 14 read it as an affirmative grant of an injunctive
- 15 relief.
- 16 It says "nothing herein shall preclude
- 17 the State of Texas from bringing an injunction,"
- 18 almost suggesting that there -- if there was a
- 19 preexisting right from the State of Texas to
- 20 have that injunction, that they would still have
- 21 it. I'm not opining on that, but I'm saying
- 22 that that would still exist.
- 23 And to the extent that it was read as
- an affirmative grant or an additional remedy,
- 25 that the State of Texas would still have that

- 1 under the Restoration Act.
- 2 JUSTICE KAGAN: But I guess what I was
- 3 asking about is it would still be true that
- 4 Texas -- or is this wrong -- that -- that --
- 5 that the -- that when 107(c) gives jurisdiction
- 6 to the federal courts, is that different from
- 7 the scheme that prevails in IGRA?
- 8 MR. MARTIN: No, Your Honor. If we go
- 9 --
- 10 JUSTICE KAGAN: That's the same?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 12 JUSTICE KAGAN: So, really, it's
- 13 entirely IGRA. I mean, there's no sense in
- which Texas comes out worse?
- MR. MARTIN: We certainly believe
- 16 there is no sense in which Texas comes out
- worse, Your Honor.
- 18 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Counsel, just
- one last question from me, and I -- I'm sure
- 20 it's not relevant, but I -- like Justice
- 21 Sotomayor, I'm pretty curious. You walk in,
- 22 this thing looks like a slot machine, right?
- MR. MARTIN: No, Your Honor. I mean
- 24 --
- 25 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: No?

1 MR. MARTIN: -- I would actually 2 dispute that. I think the State of Texas thinks 3 it looks like a slot machine. And I certainly 4 -- there's been testimony that they think it looks like a slot machine. I could -- I could 5 6 tell you --7 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: What would -what -- what would you say it looks like? 8 9 MR. MARTIN: I would say it looks like 10 an electronic bingo machine that has a bingo 11 card or --12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: What makes it 13 look like a bingo machine? 14 (Laughter.) 15 MR. MARTIN: Well, there's a -- let --16 let me try to --CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: There's a name 17 18 on it that says bingo? 19 MR. MARTIN: Well, there's actually a 20 card and you can actually switch the cards by 21 pushing a button to change the cards that you're 22 playing. Now are there reels and lights that 23 look -- that would characterize --24 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: And are there 25 people --

```
1
                MR. MARTIN: -- people would
 2
      characterize it -- yes.
 3
                CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: -- calling out
 4
     numbers and people -- somebody saying, you know,
 5
     B-12 or --
 6
               MR. MARTIN: There -- there, in fact,
 7
      is part of our operations, Your Honor, of my
      tribe's operations is live-called bingo and it's
8
     also one of the things that the State of Texas
 9
     has complained about.
10
11
                CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: But that's
12
      something different than the slot -- slot
     machine bingo, right?
13
               MR. MARTIN: It is different than the
14
15
      electronic machines, Your Honor, but they've
16
     complained about all of it.
17
               CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Okay.
                                               Thank
18
     you. I'm sorry.
19
                Justice Thomas?
20
                JUSTICE THOMAS: Just one
     clarification. Who can operate -- under Texas's
21
22
      law, who can conduct a bingo game legally?
```

Act, as you're referencing, it's specific

charitable organizations, Your Honor, that are

MR. MARTIN: The Texas Bingo Enabling

23

24

- 1 -- that are set forth in that regulatory scheme.
- 2 JUSTICE THOMAS: So why is this not
- 3 prohibited if it's not a charitable
- 4 organization?
- 5 MR. MARTIN: Because, if the games
- 6 under -- under not just the Restoration Act but
- 7 also under IGRA and under the cases that come
- 8 out of IGRA, if it's allowed to anyone for any
- 9 purpose, then it's not a prohibited gaming
- 10 activity. And that's specifically under IGRA,
- 11 Your Honor.
- 12 JUSTICE ALITO: Thank you.
- 13 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 14 Breyer?
- 15 JUSTICE BREYER: I'm curious about the
- 16 bingo machines. If -- if -- suppose that IGRA
- applied, and suppose that Texas had a law which
- 18 said you can play bingo up to -- the one the
- 19 Chief gave, up to \$1,000, but not for more than
- 20 1,000. That's a crime.
- 21 Well, IGRA says -- seems like the same
- 22 problem. It -- it -- it says you have to
- 23 have -- I guess gaming activity on Indian lands
- 24 is okay if the -- if you have a compact or under
- 25 III, I guess, or something, if -- if the gaming

- 1 activity is conducted within a state, which does
- 2 not as a matter of criminal law and public
- 3 policy prohibit the gaming activity.
- 4 All right. So isn't it the same
- 5 problem? I mean, it says -- because they do
- 6 prohibit it over \$1,000, but they don't prohibit
- 7 it under \$1,000, but that you want to call
- 8 regulation, but IGRA doesn't seem to use the
- 9 word "regulation."
- MR. MARTIN: Well, Your Honor, it's --
- it's not the same problem, and the --
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: It's not?
- MR. MARTIN: It's not, because IGRA
- 14 actually incorporates that Cabazon prohibited
- 15 regulatory juris- -- distinction.
- 16 JUSTICE BREYER: Yes.
- 17 MR. MARTIN: And that distinction is
- actually critical to the hypothetical that you
- 19 posed.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Right, right, right.
- 21 I understand that. So I didn't understand that
- 22 IGRA incorporated it, but I guess it doesn't
- incorporate it in the language I just read you.
- So where does it incorporate it?
- 25 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, IGRA would be

- incorporated -- or, I'm sorry, Cabazon would be
- 2 incorporated into IGRA under 2701(5) and
- $3 \quad 2710(b)(1)(A)$.
- 4 JUSTICE BREYER: 2710(b)(1)(A), okay.
- 5 MR. MARTIN: And 2701(5), Your Honor.
- 6 JUSTICE BREYER: That -- that's what I
- 7 read you, 2701(5).
- 8 MR. MARTIN: Right. And there's 20 --
- 9 JUSTICE BREYER: It didn't say
- 10 regulatory.
- 11 MR. MARTIN: Right. Well --
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: It said prohibited.
- MR. MARTIN: -- I think, if you read
- 14 those statutes, our submission would be that
- that's where IGRA specifically incorporates the
- 16 Cabazon prohibited framework.
- 17 JUSTICE BREYER: Okay. Okay.
- 18 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice Alito?
- 19 JUSTICE ALITO: Well, I'm puzzled by
- 20 both your argument and by Cabazon and, in
- 21 particular, by how a court is going to decide
- 22 whether these machines, which I don't have a
- very clear picture of in my mind, are bingo or
- 24 not bingo.
- 25 If they are not bingo, they're

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1
      something else. Let's say they're dingo.
 2
                (Laughter.)
 3
                JUSTICE ALITO: And Texas prohibits
 4
     dingo, then you can't have them, right?
 5
               MR. MARTIN: If Texas prohibited --
               JUSTICE ALITO: Yeah. Under no --
 6
 7
               MR. MARTIN: -- dingo --
               JUSTICE ALITO: -- circumstances can
 8
9
     you have a dingo machine.
10
               MR. MARTIN: If it was a criminal
11
     prohibition against dingo, you would be correct,
12
     Your Honor.
13
               JUSTICE ALITO: Okay. And how do you
14
     decide whether this thing is bingo? I mean,
15
      just like the platonic ideal of bingo?
16
               MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I -- I think
17
      that you don't have to decide the -- this Court
18
19
               JUSTICE ALITO: No, we don't have to
20
21
               MR. MARTIN: -- does not have to --
2.2
               JUSTICE ALITO: -- but somebody does.
23
               MR. MARTIN: -- decide the platonic
24
      ideal --
25
               JUSTICE ALITO: And how is the person
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- 1 who has to decide this going to decide whether
- 2 this thing that's not exactly -- it's not the
- 3 kind of bingo, you know, that you expect people
- 4 to be playing in church or at the Elks. It's
- 5 something different. How do you decide whether
- 6 that's bingo?
- 7 MR. MARTIN: Understood, Your Honor.
- 8 I think let's -- and let's take the hypothetical
- 9 that this gets remanded down through to the
- 10 trial court to make that factual determination.
- I think that court would take into
- 12 account a number of things. It would take into
- 13 account the definition of bingo that Texas has
- 14 under the Texas Bingo Enabling Act, which
- 15 actually helps us. It would take into account
- what IGRA considers to be bingo under 2701 and
- 17 2710. It would take into account the expert
- 18 testimony, much like it did in the contempt
- 19 hearing below.
- 20 And I would point out to Your Honor,
- 21 and this is what -- what I think --
- JUSTICE ALITO: There are experts who
- 23 they -- they -- they are experts on -- on the
- 24 identification of the -- you put something
- 25 before these experts and they can say that's

- 1 bingo, no, that's not bingo? There are people
- 2 who can be qualified as experts on that?
- 3 MR. MARTIN: The answer to the
- 4 question -- that question is yes, Your Honor,
- 5 there are.
- 6 JUSTICE BREYER: Did you ask my
- 7 grandmother? She was --
- 8 (Laughter.)
- 9 MR. MARTIN: My -- my own mother has
- 10 asked me questions about those very issues, Your
- 11 Honor. But there are experts, in fact, that
- talk about whether or not something has a random
- 13 number generator or not, whether or not the math
- makes it bingo, whether or not the evidence of
- the pattern makes it bingo. All of those things
- 16 are taken into account.
- 17 All of those same things, Your Honor,
- 18 are taken into account by the NIGC. You know,
- 19 the Kickapoo Tribe, which is the only other out
- 20 of these -- the three federally recognized
- 21 tribes in the State of Texas, one of them gets
- 22 to engage under the NIGC under IGRA and then the
- 23 two that are controlled by the Restoration Act
- 24 don't because Ysleta I misread the statute and
- read 107(b) out of it and talked about it being

- 1 fed -- a surrogate federal law and that all of
- 2 Texas's laws and regulations are surrogate
- 3 federal law.
- We would submit, Your Honor, you can't
- 5 read the Restoration Act that way. It's not the
- 6 proper way to read it out of --
- 7 JUSTICE ALITO: Can I ask you one --
- 8 one final question? Because I -- I am -- the --
- 9 this -- the Cabazon Band is more subtle than my
- 10 mind is able to grasp.
- 11 Do you think that the sale of opioids
- 12 without a prescription is prohibited, or is it
- 13 merely regulated?
- MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I -- when I
- 15 would reference Cabazon Band for Restoration
- 16 Act -- I -- I don't have an opinion on the -- on
- 17 your question, and I want to be very honest with
- 18 you about that because I want to be responsive,
- but, when you're talking about the Indian gaming
- 20 context, that is where Cabazon lies. That's
- 21 where this gauntlet is thrown. And that's what
- 22 Congress was responding to in 1986 when it
- 23 drafted the Restoration Act.
- 24 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 25 Sotomayor?

1	Justice Kagan?
2	JUSTICE KAGAN: You know, Mr. Martin,
3	I guess just following up on what Justice Alito
4	talked about, this Cabazon distinction presents
5	a wealth of sort of complicated and, quite
6	frankly, weird questions.
7	And the slot machine would just be one
8	of like a thousand of them. I mean, it just
9	Cabazon tells us to make a distinction about
10	between "prohibition" and "regulation" when most
11	of regulation prohibits certain things.
12	And then you're stuck in the middle of
13	trying to figure out what's a prohibition and
14	what's a regulation. But I I I guess, as
15	I well, Cabazon is there, it's not unique to
16	the question of slot machines.
17	I mean, how should we figure in any
18	any discomfort about Cabazon and the distinction
19	that it makes itself?
20	MR. MARTIN: I think the distinction
21	
22	JUSTICE KAGAN: Because I guess I
23	would have thought that your answer to Justice
24	Alito was like: Welcome to the world of
25	Cabazon. Sorry. You know? And and that's

- 1 it. And it wouldn't really depend on -- at all
- 2 on whether there were experts about slot
- 3 machines. So -- so that's sort of random
- 4 thoughts, but, I mean, this is just the world of
- 5 Cabazon and how do we take that into account?
- 6 MR. MARTIN: Well, if I may, Your
- 7 Honor --
- 8 (Laughter.)
- 9 MR. MARTIN: -- I think the
- 10 distinction here and the difference between the
- 11 opioid --
- JUSTICE KAGAN: It wasn't that funny.
- 13 (Laughter.)
- MR. MARTIN: -- the -- the opioid
- 15 questions or the other questions that you could
- 16 ask along those same lines, which are fair
- 17 questions, but the difference is the sovereignty
- 18 aspect of it.
- 19 You're talking about sovereign tribes
- and Congress being the only one that has the
- 21 plenary power to decide certain aspects of it.
- 22 If you remember in Cabazon, it talked about the
- 23 fact that Congress made the decision to help --
- 24 have the tribes do this in terms of their
- 25 self-sufficiency.

1	So I think the sovereighty aspect of
2	it shouldn't be and can't be overlooked because
3	that's where 107(b) comes in. That's where the
4	resolution is answered, right? The tribe was
5	willing to give up a certain amount of gaming
6	activities in order to not have Texas state law
7	apply directly and not be subject to its resolu-
8	regulation. Congress ultimately decided not
9	to accept their offer and to give them less
LO	restrictions than they could have in response to
L1	Cabazon.
L2	So I think all of those fits as a
L3	piece, and it is also why, you know, you could
L4	talk about the the opioid hypothetical, you
L5	could talk about other hypotheticals along those
L6	same lines, but this concept of the sovereignty
L7	and the tribe's ability to engage in gaming
L8	activities I do think is a different story.
L9	It's not just here's Cabazon, live
20	with it, right? As you put it, Your Honor, and
21	much more succinctly than I have in a month of
22	prepping for this, it's not just that. It's
23	more there are questions of the sovereignty
24	aspects of it and the regulatory aspects of it,
25	the Public Law 280 aspects of it that I think

- 1 Congress was answering when it wrote the
- 2 Restoration Act in response to Cabazon.
- 3 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 4 Gorsuch?
- Justice Kavanaugh?
- 6 Justice Barrett?
- 7 Thank you, counsel.
- 8 JUSTICE BARRETT: Oh, oh, sorry, I did
- 9 have a question.
- 10 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Oh, I'm sorry.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: No, that's okay.
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: You're far
- away.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: I'd like to give you
- a chance, counsel, to respond to the argument
- 16 that 105(f) -- I mean, we're talking a lot about
- 17 Cabazon, and 105(f) essentially imports the
- 18 Cabazon framework itself into the Restoration
- 19 Act. So, if this isn't surrogate law, surrogate
- 20 federal law under the Restoration Act, and we
- 21 have 105(f) importing the Cabazon framework
- 22 directly in, why isn't it then redundant to
- interpret the Restoration Act as you do?
- MR. MARTIN: The -- 105(f) certainly
- incorporates the Public Law 280 construct, and

- 1 -- and there's, I don't think, any way to
- dispute that, nor would we want to. 107(a) and
- 3 what it does differently, Your Honor, than what
- 4 105(f) does is it federalizes Texas law as to
- 5 prohibited games.
- I think where the Fifth Circuit went
- 7 wrong in talking about surrogate federal law was
- 8 it extended it out to laws and regulations of
- 9 the State of Texas over all gaming activities.
- 10 That's not what 107 says. So I think that's one
- of the differences between 105(f) and 107.
- 12 The second difference that I would
- point out to Your Honor is 107(c), which sets up
- 14 a different enforce -- enforcement mechanism
- than what would have existed had just 105(f)
- been inforded -- imported and 107 didn't exist.
- 17 JUSTICE BARRETT: So you agree that --
- 18 sorry. You agree that the Restoration Act
- 19 establishes Texas law as surrogate federal law;
- you're saying that it only does that, however,
- 21 with respect to prohibitions?
- MR. MARTIN: To pro -- I'm actually
- 23 saying it does that with respect to prohibited
- 24 gaming activity.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: Right. Thing that

1 are prohibited --2 MR. MARTIN: That's what Justice --3 JUSTICE BARRETT: -- not those that are regulated. 4 5 MR. MARTIN: Yes, Your Honor. So the 6 7 JUSTICE BARRETT: So the only difference between Cabazon under Section 280 and 8 -- or Public Law 280 and the Restoration Act is 9 simply this enforcement mechanism? 10 11 MR. MARTIN: It's the enforcement 12 mechanism and then it is -- it is stating what laws are federal -- what state laws are 13 federalized for the Restoration Act. 14 15 JUSTICE BARRETT: Okay. CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, 16 17 counsel. 18 Mr. Yang. 19 ORAL ARGUMENT OF ANTHONY A. YANG FOR THE UNITED STATES, AS AMICUS CURIAE, 20 21 SUPPORTING THE PETITIONERS 22 MR. YANG: Mr. Chief Justice, and may 23 it please the Court: Just six months after this Court drew 24

the distinction in Cabazon under Public Law 280

- 1 between gaming activity that is prohibited
- versus gaming activity that is regulated by
- 3 state law, Congress enacted Section 107,
- 4 mirroring that language to draw the same
- 5 distinction in the exact same Indian gaming
- 6 context.
- 7 Section 107(a) forbids a tribe from
- 8 engaging in gaming activities that are
- 9 prohibited under Texas law, and Section 107(b)
- 10 further provides that Section 107(a) does not
- grant the state civil or criminal regulatory
- 12 jurisdiction.
- 13 Texas has conceded in this Court that
- 14 Section 107(b) restates the limits of Public Law
- 15 280. Those limits draw directly from Cabazon,
- they limit state regulatory jurisdiction, and
- 17 they make clear that Section 107 adopts the
- 18 Cabazon framework.
- 19 The Fifth Circuit's contrary view
- 20 erroneously relies on legislative history and
- 21 text that Congress once excluded but then
- 22 removed from the legislation. This Court should
- 23 correct that error.
- JUSTICE THOMAS: Mr. Yang, what's the
- 25 difference between "prohibited" and "regulated"?

- 1 MR. YANG: Something that is
- 2 prohibited is prohibited outright. And the
- 3 focus, again, is --
- 4 JUSTICE THOMAS: Okay. So a statute
- 5 or a rule or regulation says all patrons under
- 6 the age of 21 are prohibited.
- 7 MR. YANG: Right. That --
- 8 JUSTICE THOMAS: Is that a regulation,
- 9 or is that a prohibition?
- 10 MR. YANG: That could be a prohibition
- 11 but -- but, here, not in this context. The
- 12 statute focuses on gaming activities that are
- 13 prohibited. The gaming activity would not be
- 14 prohibited in that context. That is a method of
- 15 conducting the gaming activity with people under
- 16 the age of 21.
- 17 This is exactly the distinction that
- 18 Congress -- that this Court in Cabazon drew.
- 19 And I would remind -- I would point to Williams
- 20 versus Taylor, which -- a unanimous decision of
- 21 this Court which said that when a later statute
- 22 on the same subject matter uses words of a prior
- 23 Supreme Court opinion, those words are given the
- same meaning unless there's a specific --
- 25 specific direction to the contrary.

1 And the word there was "failed." 2 wasn't -- "failed" can have a lot of different 3 meanings in a lot of different contexts. JUSTICE THOMAS: But -- but let me --4 you know, the -- I understand. But going back 5 6 to what you just said, that if the activity is 7 regulated -- basically, what I'm hearing you say 8 is that if it's permitted in any context, then 9 it's permitted. 10 That's --MR. YANG: 11 JUSTICE THOMAS: So the -- the mere 12 fact that bingo is permitted to -- for the 13 churches and the military -- the veterans 14 organizations means it is not prohibited? 15 MR. YANG: That's right, and when 16 Congress took up IGRA shortly thereafter, the 17 same Congress, Congress adopted the same Cabazon 18 distinction that is embodied in the -- the 19 provisions you were -- you were just discussing 20 with my friend. 21 The State -- and it does use the term "regulation." It allows Indians -- tribes to 2.2 23 regulate games that the state does not, as a 24 matter of criminal law and public policy, 25 prohibit, such gaming activity, again, drawing

- on the prohibitory/regulatory distinction in
- 2 Cabazon. And then it brings -- it
- 3 operationalizes it in 2710(b) and (d) if the
- 4 state permits such gaming by any person by --
- 5 for any purpose.
- 6 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Mr. Yang --
- 7 MR. YANG: That -- that's the whole
- 8 standard that it governs the entire United
- 9 States with respect to activities on tribal
- 10 lands, except these two tribes under the Fifth
- 11 Circuit's reading.
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Mr. Yang, I
- think your office is going to be very busy over
- 14 the next 10 years explaining why the word
- 15 "prohibited," in 18 U.S.C. whatever, still
- 16 covers, you know, activities, possession of
- whatever, even though it's permitted at some
- 18 level, right?
- I mean, it's prohibited to possess a
- 20 certain amount of whatever, but, you know, at --
- 21 at a level of personal use or medical whatever,
- it's okay, then you can't prohibit it at all.
- MR. YANG: We -- we aren't concerned
- 24 about that because, with respect to this
- 25 distinction -- let me take a step back. This

- distinction exists in Public Law 280. It's done
- 2 so for a long time. Cabazon was 35 years ago.
- 3 Public -- Cabazon applied a
- 4 distinction in Bryan. Bryan understood that
- 5 there's an important principle at stake here.
- 6 You need to preserve tribal sovereignty and
- 7 tribal government and that if you allow state
- 8 regulatory power on tribal lands, you would
- 9 destroy tribal sovereignty. That principle in
- 10 Bryan was extended in Cabazon specifically to
- 11 the gaming context, where the Court drew this
- 12 prohibitory/regulatory distinction.
- We don't think this is a problem with
- 14 respect to all of 18 U.S. Code -- C because,
- when you're interpreting a -- a statute like
- 16 this, particularly a statute enacted directly on
- 17 the heels of a Supreme Court decision on the
- 18 same subject matter using the same language,
- 19 what you look to is not some general
- 20 understanding of the word "prohibit;" you look
- 21 to the way that this Court has used the term
- 22 "prohibit."
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Mr. Yang, just to
- 24 follow up on the Chief Justice's point, I -- I
- 25 -- I take your argument that this is a unique

- 1 context and -- and we have to read the language
- 2 in that context.
- 3 But Texas -- Texas argues even in this
- 4 context, the difference between "prohibition"
- 5 and "regulation" is just unworkable. It's
- 6 almost an argument perhaps for overruling
- 7 Cabazon.
- 8 I'd -- I'd like your thoughts about
- 9 whether this distinction remains workable in
- 10 this context. Forget about the others.
- 11 MR. YANG: We think it works in this
- 12 context because it is working under IGRA. This
- is exactly what goes on under IGRA.
- If the Court were to agree with our
- submission and that of the tribe, then the NIGC
- would get to determine whether this is a bingo
- 17 activity or -- and, in addition, whether it is
- 18 Class II bingo or potentially Class III bingo,
- 19 which would require a compact with the state.
- 20 JUSTICE GORSUCH: And what would be
- 21 the negative consequences in the government's
- view, if any, if we were to elide this
- 23 distinction, ignore it, overrule Cabazon?
- 24 MR. YANG: Wow. If the Court -- first
- of all, I don't think that's before the Court.

- 1 This has been a fundamental distinction that's
- 2 existed in the law of -- of tribal sovereignty
- 3 and -- and tribal lands for decades upon
- 4 decades. Again, it goes back before Cabazon.
- 5 So that's the Public Law 280 context.
- 6 And then you -- you know, I'm not sure
- 7 what the Court would do if it was just limited
- 8 to this specific context because Congress has
- 9 already spoken in IGRA. IGRA exactly parallels
- 10 this distinction. It's beyond the stage of
- 11 rethinking now Cabazon.
- 12 JUSTICE BARRETT: Are --
- 13 MR. YANG: Cabazon is embedded in the
- 14 law in all kinds of areas.
- 15 JUSTICE BARRETT: -- are there
- 16 problems under IGRA or Public Law 280 in drawing
- the lines that we've been pressing between
- 18 "prohibit" and "regulate"?
- MR. YANG: You know, there may be some
- 20 close cases, but as in the mine run of cases,
- 21 we've not seen a -- a huge wellspring of
- 22 problems. Again, this has existed since Bryan
- and since Cabazon 35 years ago, and, again, IGRA
- has existed for a long time. There are similar
- 25 --

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1
               JUSTICE BREYER: But is it --
 2
               JUSTICE GORSUCH: So -- so, if I --
 3
               JUSTICE BREYER: -- because they --
               JUSTICE GORSUCH: -- if I understand
 4
      correctly -- I'm -- I just want to -- I --
 5
 6
     please go ahead.
 7
               JUSTICE BREYER: No, you're fine.
 8
                JUSTICE GORSUCH: I just wanted to
 9
     follow up real quick. So, in the government's
10
      view, if we were to eliminate the distinction
     between "regulate" and "prohibit" in -- in -- in
11
12
     the Restoration Act, we would all -- also wind
13
     up inevitably doing so in IGRA and that that
14
     would have more negative consequences than
15
     positive ones. Is -- is that -- is that
16
      summarizing your view?
17
               MR. YANG: I'm not sure how the Court
18
      -- I mean, there's -- there's statutory text in
19
      IGRA. I'm not sure what the Court's decision
20
     would mean for IGRA. It certainly would mean a
21
     huge change in the law in terms of governing
22
      Public Law 280, which is one of the fundamental
23
      statutes governing Indian lands.
                So I would caution the Court not to be
24
25
      overly ambitious here. This case does not
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- 1 involve a question of rethinking Cabazon. The
- 2 ultimate question presented is whether Congress,
- 3 in enacting the -- the Restoration Act, was
- 4 adopting the Cabazon framework or instead was
- 5 applying all of Texas law governing gaming.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Thank you.
- 7 I'm sorry, Justice Breyer.
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: Is the reason that
- 9 this is not a problem that when it comes up,
- 10 it's normally a question of where or when or
- 11 under what circumstances can you play this game?
- 12 But it's not normally a question of how do you
- 13 play because, if it were how do you play, you
- would have trouble saying, you know, is it bingo
- or is it, you know, craps or something? I mean
- 16 --
- 17 MR. YANG: Well --
- JUSTICE BREYER: -- is it -- is it --
- 19 but -- but it's the first three which are
- 20 usually fairly easy to decide.
- MR. YANG: No.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Am I right or wrong?
- MR. YANG: No, actually, I think --
- JUSTICE BREYER: Wrong?
- 25 MR. YANG: -- there is the question of

- 1 whether things do constitute bingo and it arises
- 2 not infrequently in the context of IGRA.
- 3 You know, this is not in the QP in
- 4 terms of is this bingo and we've not briefed it,
- 5 and so I can give you a thumbnail sketch, but it
- 6 would be difficult, I think, to give you the
- 7 whole lay of the land here.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: I'd love to hear
- 9 what the difference between bingo and dingo is,
- 10 so please.
- 11 MR. YANG: Well, I'd not heard of
- dingo, but I can tell you that bingo has three
- 13 primary characteristics. These are actually
- 14 codified in IGRA. Congress has recognized that
- 15 these are the three primary characteristics.
- 16 One, you have a card bearing numbers or
- designators. Two, you cover those numbers when
- 18 they are drawn or somehow identified. And you
- 19 win by covering an arrangement of numbers.
- 20 This is in 2703(7)(A)(i). This is a
- 21 kind of understanding of what bingo is. And you
- 22 would ask, is this bingo, or is it a method of
- 23 conducting bingo when you use a computer?
- 24 Even Texas, by the way, allows card
- 25 mining devices, which are these devices where

- 1 you can, instead of tracking five cards, you can
- 2 track up to 66 cards under state law at one
- 3 time. The problem that the district court found
- 4 was not that this wasn't bingo; it was that
- 5 Texas law requires that you not submit -- put
- 6 the money in the device or get paid out by the
- 7 device. That was the problem under Texas law.
- 8 There's a legitimate question whether
- 9 this would be Class II or Class III bingo under
- 10 IGRA, but, you know, that's not presented here.
- JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Mr. Yang, can I
- 12 ask, to follow up on Justice Gorsuch's and
- 13 Justice Barrett's questions, assume we don't
- overrule Cabazon, but if we were to rule for the
- 15 State of Texas in this case on this statute,
- 16 would there be any follow-on implications for
- other statutes, or is it possible to rule for
- 18 the State of Texas narrowly in this case without
- 19 such follow-on implications in your view?
- 20 MR. YANG: You know, I think it would
- 21 depend on how the Court wrote the opinion. This
- is a Texas-specific statute, so it might be
- 23 possible.
- 24 But I would -- you know, so there are
- 25 some questions that I'd like to still address.

- 1 One was about the meaning of 20 -- 107(b). I
- 2 think 107(b) has to be read in conjunction with
- 3 105(f). 105(f) is a grant of civil and criminal
- 4 jurisdiction to the state under Public Law 280.
- When they use jurisdiction there,
- 6 Justice Kagan, it's not with respect to courts.
- 7 It's with respect to authority, and the use of
- 8 that term is generally used -- you know,
- 9 post-Arbaugh we're trying to get away from using
- 10 jurisdiction when we don't mean court
- 11 jurisdiction, but this is before Arbaugh and
- it's quite common both in legislation and in the
- 13 Court's decisions.
- Then, if you look at 107(b), it uses
- that same phrase "civil and criminal
- 16 jurisdiction" but inserts "regulatory." And
- 17 that was the exact distinction that Cabazon
- 18 drew.
- 19 Remember Cabazon was already writing
- 20 on top of Bryan, which said there's no crim- --
- 21 civil regulatory jurisdiction, and it said just
- 22 because you add a criminal sanction doesn't
- 23 convert it to a criminal law that you can
- 24 enforce under Public Law 280. 107(b) directly
- 25 draws on that same Cabazon distinction, and it

- 1 says nothing in Section 107 shall be interpreted
- 2 to grant that authority, which means 107(a),
- 3 when it says gaming activities prohibited by
- 4 state law, does not grant regulatory authority,
- 5 and that is the second half of the Cabazon
- framework, prohibited, not regulated.
- 7 The -- I think also, you know, IGRA is
- 8 worth considering here because Congress enacted
- 9 IGRA, same Congress, and as the Court -- Justice
- 10 Scalia explained in Branch versus Smith, when
- 11 you have a similar statute and the same body of
- 12 law, you can look at that to clarify the meaning
- of another statute because it's within the same
- 14 body of law. You read it in pari materia.
- And I don't think there's really any
- 16 dispute that by using the same regulated and
- 17 prohibit language and the provisions that we've
- talked about, which are at page 9 of our brief,
- 19 that Congress in IGRA was adopting Cabazon,
- 20 Congress was doing the same thing here. And
- there's no reason to distinctly disadvantage
- these tribes where Congress used the same
- 23 language and establishes a --
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Well, but, Mr. Yang,
- 25 doesn't that -- doesn't that answer Justice

- 1 Kavanaugh's question? If -- if we were to
- 2 ignore Cabazon here in 107, on what basis could
- 3 you continue to recognize that distinction under
- 4 IGRA? Wouldn't that be pretty hard?
- 5 MR. YANG: You know, it's a different
- 6 statute. I think it --
- 7 JUSTICE GORSUCH: That's the best you
- 8 qot?
- 9 MR. YANG: -- I think it would be
- 10 difficult to draw that distinction. It really
- 11 would. These are the same context in the, you
- 12 know, same Indian gaming context, written by the
- same Congress in the same general legal world
- 14 post-Cabazon, I think it's hard.
- 15 You know, this -- our view is you
- 16 should read Public Law 2 -- excuse me,
- 17 Section 107 the same way that you read IGRA.
- 18 And I would like to talk about the tribal
- 19 resolution.
- 20 JUSTICE BARRETT: Can I just ask one
- 21 follow-up to Justice Gorsuch's question?
- MR. YANG: Sure.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: But, I mean, the
- 24 common thread in all of these is Cabazon. So,
- 25 without Cabazon, it sounds like you're taking a

- 1 slightly different position than your friend.
- 2 It sounds to me like you're saying Cabazon
- drives this. Without Cabazon, if we're talking
- 4 about just the ordinary meaning, then it's a lot
- 5 harder to make the case for this distinction
- 6 between prohibit --
- 7 MR. YANG: Oh, it -- it's much harder
- 8 to make the -- the case. You know, you could
- 9 make the case. It would be a much higher hurdle
- 10 to cross.
- I'd like to talk about --
- 12 JUSTICE KAGAN: But I take your view
- to be saying Cabazon is all over this statute.
- In other words, it's not just saying, oh, look,
- prohibit, six months ago, Cabazon said something
- 16 about prohibit. But you're making the case that
- 17 if you just look at this entire statute, Cabazon
- is pretty much all over it?
- 19 MR. YANG: And Cabazon was always in
- this, well, once it existed. Section 105(f) has
- 21 always existed in every piece of legislation
- 22 going back to 1984. 105(f) existed. Congress
- 23 knew when it was adopting 105(f) which would
- then incorporate the Public Law 280 framework
- 25 that that comes with Cabazon. And then, with

- 1 respect specifically to gaming, it's the
- 2 specific provision rather than the general
- 3 provision in 105(f). It again uses Cabazon's
- 4 language five minutes later.
- 5 I'd like to talk about the tribal
- 6 resolution, but --
- 7 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I'll give you
- 8 a minute.
- 9 MR. YANG: Okay. So the tribal
- 10 resolution, you know, when -- in 107(a),
- 11 Congress's reference there respects the tribe's
- 12 strong opposition to the direct application of
- 13 state law. And the text, you know, there's been
- 14 dispate -- debate about the resolution. The
- 15 text of the statute cannot be read as applying
- 16 the -- the final request in the resolution
- 17 because no one thinks and the text does not
- 18 allow you to read 107(a) to prohibit all gaming
- 19 prohibited under Texas law. It's just not what
- 20 happened.
- 21 There was also a significant textual
- 22 change. When Congress first adopted the
- 23 reference to the tribal resolution, it said
- 24 pursuant to the tribal resolution -- this is on
- 25 page 4 of our brief -- all gaming is prohibited

- 1 if it's as defined under Texas law. Cabazon
- 2 came, Congress retooled 107, and then it said --
- 3 instead of said pursuant to the resolution, it
- 4 said this is enacted in accordance with the
- 5 resolution. We think that has some more
- 6 flexibility, and what it really reflects
- 7 primarily is the tribe's strong opposition to
- 8 the direct application of state law. That's why
- 9 Section 107 is federal law, and that's why
- 10 federal enforcement generally prevails, with the
- 11 exception of state enforcement, if the state has
- 12 a preexisting cause of action that it can assert
- 13 for an injunction against a tribal officer.
- 14 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you.
- 15 Justice Thomas?
- 16 JUSTICE THOMAS: No questions.
- 17 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 18 Breyer, anything further?
- 19 Justice Alito?
- 20 JUSTICE ALITO: Didn't the tribal
- 21 resolution ask that the statute include
- 22 "language which would provide that all gambling"
- 23 -- "gaming, gambling, lottery, or bingo, as
- 24 defined by the laws and administrative
- 25 regulations of the State of Texas, shall be

- 1 prohibited on the tribe's reservation or on
- 2 tribal land"? Didn't it say that?
- 3 MR. YANG: It did, and Congress in
- 4 response adopted verbatim that language. This
- 5 is on page 4 of our brief. That was in 1986.
- 6 And then, when H.R. 318 was introduced in 1987,
- 7 again, on page 4 of our brief, that exact
- 8 language was in the bill.
- 9 JUSTICE ALITO: But that's -- that's
- 10 --
- MR. YANG: But then Cabazon came.
- 12 JUSTICE ALITO: -- in 1-0 -- that is
- referenced in 107(a), is it not?
- MR. YANG: Which is?
- JUSTICE ALITO: The language I just
- 16 read.
- 17 MR. YANG: 107(a) does not have that
- 18 language. It reference -- it says that 107(a)
- is enacted in accordance with the tribal
- 20 resolution.
- JUSTICE ALITO: Yeah. Okay.
- MR. YANG: But the tribal resolution
- 23 had more -- many things in it, and this is a --
- JUSTICE ALITO: So -- all right. I
- 25 understand. I understand.

- 1 MR. YANG: Right. And so --
- 2 JUSTICE ALITO: I understand your
- 3 point.
- 4 MR. YANG: Okay.
- 5 JUSTICE ALITO: I understand your
- 6 point.
- 7 One other question. You refer to the
- 8 Indian canon. Those who favor the
- 9 interpretation of statutes to mean what the
- words of the statute are generally understood to
- 11 mean have some question about some of these
- 12 substantive canons.
- Now some of them, like the Rule of
- Lenity, have a long history. What do you think
- is the basis for this Indian canon?
- 16 MR. YANG: Well, it has a long history
- in this Court's jurisprudence, and I think it
- 18 recognizes the special role that -- and our
- 19 relationship historically with the Indian
- 20 tribes.
- Now I don't think you actually need
- the Indian canon. We didn't make a big deal out
- of it in our brief. It's certainly part of the
- 24 Court's jurisprudence that if there -- if you
- 25 find this ambiguous, that you should tip the

- 1 scale.
- 2 But we think this is pretty -- a
- 3 pretty clear-cut case of Congress six months
- 4 after Cabazon adopting the language of Cabazon
- 5 to apply Cabazon's distinction in the same
- 6 gaming context.
- JUSTICE ALITO: Well, that doesn't
- 8 really answer my question. What is the origin
- 9 of this? Is it your -- is it your argument that
- 10 throughout history Congress has always framed
- 11 statutes in a way that are favorable to Indian
- 12 tribes?
- MR. YANG: I've not -- my research for
- this case, unfortunately, has not gone that far
- 15 back. I don't have the original -- no one has
- 16 challenged the Indian canon's existence here,
- 17 and we've not gone back to -- to form an
- 18 argument for it, Your Honor.
- 19 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 20 Sotomayor?
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Counsel, the
- 22 tribal -- 1986 tribal resolution, in my mind,
- 23 seems to serve a variety of different functions.
- 24 The first, I think, is that you need
- 25 Indian approval to have any state law apply on a

- 1 reservation, correct?
- 2 MR. YANG: Yeah, I think that's --
- 3 that's part.
- 4 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Generally true.
- 5 MR. YANG: Yes, and -- but,
- 6 significantly, you know, the tribe didn't want
- 7 the state to impose its laws directly on the
- 8 tribe. That was --
- 9 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Exactly.
- 10 MR. YANG: -- that was a very
- 11 significant issue.
- 12 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So that's where
- 13 107(c) is in accordance with the resolution,
- because they didn't want the state to be able to
- 15 regulate or have its laws --
- 16 MR. YANG: Well --
- 17 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- applied
- 18 directly, correct?
- 19 MR. YANG: -- I agree with that, but I
- also think 107(a) is because 107(a) applies as
- 21 federal law certain -- a limited set of state
- 22 laws that prohibit, and -- and what that does is
- 23 significant. It makes a federal criminal
- offense to conduct prohibited gaming activities.
- 25 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: If we read this

- 1 the way the State wants, presume that they are
- 2 running a bingo game exactly the way the
- 3 churches do, okay, is it your view that then the
- 4 federal court would be open to seeing whether or
- 5 not they have all the signs that are required by
- 6 the state, whether they have --
- 7 MR. YANG: Yeah, that's exactly how
- 8 things have played out since Ysleta I. And as
- 9 the district court has -- you know, we -- we --
- 10 we cite these cases in our brief, this has not
- 11 been a good way of providing a regulatory
- 12 framework through injunctive actions in federal
- 13 courts where a federal court has to talk about,
- 14 you know, how many cards can you play and what
- 15 hours can you play and what's -- that's not what
- 16 Congress would have intended, we think.
- 17 Congress would have intended to put a
- 18 pretty high bar of prohibition, and then, when
- it enacted IGRA, it goes straight to the NIGC
- and the NIGC, the expert agency, gets to decide
- 21 these questions.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I guess Texas
- 23 would say we only permit not-for-profits to
- 24 play. This is not for profit, so they shouldn't
- be playing at all. Isn't that their argument?

MR. YANG: That's, I think, part of 1 2 their argument. And I would say that Cabazon 3 directly addressed that. Cabazon was a provision in California law that only allowed 4 charities to operate bingo and that set a limit 5 6 of \$250, and the Court said, you know what, that 7 is regulating bingo, it is not prohibiting 8 bingo. 9 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Thank you, 10 counsel. 11 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice Kagan? 12 JUSTICE KAGAN: I'm about to take you 13 outside the scope of this case, so I apologize beforehand. But Justice Alito raised what to me 14 15 is an interesting question that I've been 16 thinking about a good deal about what these 17 substantive canons of interpretation are and 18 when they exist and when they don't exist. 19 They're all over the place, of course. 20 It's not just the Indian canon. Next week, 21 we're going to be thinking about the supposed 2.2 major questions canon. There are other canons. 23 I mean, if you go through Justice 24 Scalia's book, you'll find a wealth of canons of 25 this kind, these sort of substantive canons.

- 1 Some of them help the government. Some of them
- 2 hurt the government.
- 3 Is there any way that the government
- 4 has of coming in and saying, like, how do we
- 5 reconcile our views of all these different kinds
- 6 of canons? Maybe we should just toss them all
- 7 out, you know.
- 8 MR. YANG: Well --
- 9 JUSTICE KAGAN: I mean, I think kind
- of we should, honestly. Like, what are we doing
- 11 here? But is there -- do you have a view of,
- 12 like, when these canons are the kind that you're
- going to talk about in your briefs and when
- these canons are not the kind that you're going
- 15 to talk about in your briefs?
- 16 MR. YANG: Well, I think our briefs
- 17 generally grapple first with the text, right, as
- 18 we've done here. And canons, I think, can play
- 19 an important role in certain contexts. I think,
- 20 for instance, Bryan recognized that in the
- 21 Indian tribal sovereignty context, there is a
- 22 very important principle that kind of underlays
- 23 the body of the law there.
- You do not want to read statutes to
- 25 grant state regulatory authority on tribal lands

- 1 without kind of a clear expression of that. And
- 2 I think that those types of principles reflect a
- 3 background body of law that one brings when
- 4 reading statutes.
- 5 So it's true, you know, I think I've
- 6 seen the Court's decision that, you know,
- 7 sometimes you get canons that conflict, right,
- 8 that run in contrary directions. These are aids
- 9 in interpretation, but we always start with the
- 10 text.
- 11 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 12 Gorsuch?
- 13 JUSTICE GORSUCH: The government
- doesn't waive sovereign immunity lightly.
- 15 That's one of our canons, right?
- MR. YANG: That -- that's exactly
- 17 right.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: And -- and isn't the
- 19 Indian canon very similar in its function in
- 20 saying that we don't lightly assume that
- 21 Congress is allowed state authorities to
- 22 regulate an independent sovereign?
- MR. YANG: I think it's similar.
- 24 There are different underlying principles behind
- 25 them, but I think there is a similar spirit to

- 1 that thought.
- 2 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 3 Kavanaugh?
- 4 JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Just to follow up
- on Justice Kagan's question because I think
- 6 that's important, and Justice Alito's as well,
- 7 on -- on the Indian canon, I just want to
- 8 isolate what kind of canon it is, because it
- 9 seems like our substantive canons fall into two
- 10 buckets. One bucket are in ambiguity-dependent
- 11 canons; if a statute's ambiguous, do this.
- 12 Another bucket of canons are plain statement
- 13 canons for mens rea, extraterritoriality --
- MR. YANG: Right.
- 15 JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: -- and the like.
- 16 The former category, the ambiguity-dependent,
- 17 like Auer deference, Rule of Lenity, and I want
- 18 to confirm that you think the Indian canon is an
- 19 ambiguity-dependent canon as it's been
- 20 traditionally applied.
- 21 MR. YANG: I think that's generally
- true, but there's something else going on here
- 23 too, which is the -- the principle that Bryan
- 24 recognized. In the specific context when you're
- 25 talking about the application of -- of state

- 1 regulatory authority in -- on Indian lands, you
- 2 know, you need to be more cautious.
- Now, admittedly, this is a federal
- 4 statute that implied -- that applies federal
- 5 law, but I think some of the caution that Bryan
- 6 reflects, I think, should -- should guide the
- 7 Court.
- 8 JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: So that suggests
- 9 you need more of a clear statement, and those
- 10 usually -- those clear statement rules usually
- 11 reflect some constitutional or
- 12 quasi-constitutional value, due process,
- 13 extraterritorial structure, the structure of the
- 14 country. What would that reflect here, that
- 15 principle you just described?
- 16 MR. YANG: Well, I think it -- it
- 17 reflects that Indian tribes are sovereign
- 18 nations, that they have before the founding of
- 19 this country. And, you know, the Court's
- 20 opinion in Bay Mills tracks some of this.
- So, you know, whatever you think about
- the canons in general and whether that should
- be, you know, plain statement, just, you know,
- tip the balance in ambiguity, the Indian canon,
- 25 at least when we're talking about tribal

- 1 sovereignty and the application of state law on
- 2 tribal lands, that does have a strong pedigree
- and I think, ultimately, it traces to the fact
- 4 that these are sovereign nations.
- 5 JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Thank you.
- 6 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
- 7 Barrett?
- 8 JUSTICE BARRETT: I want to follow up
- 9 on this canon line of questioning. And I'm
- 10 sorry, I know you said that you weren't thinking
- about the canons when you came in here today.
- 12 It was actually my understanding --
- 13 you know, Justice Kavanaugh pointed out that our
- 14 substantive canons fall into these clear
- 15 statement and ambiguity buckets.
- 16 It was my understanding that the
- 17 Indian canon was in the ambiguity bucket.
- 18 MR. YANG: Oh. That -- that -- that
- is generally true and that's the way that we
- 20 used it in our -- our brief. But, in this case,
- 21 because of Cabazon, Cabazon was built on Bryan.
- 22 Bryan applied a stronger version of
- 23 the -- it's actually kind of a -- a brother
- 24 doctrine, I quess, or a sister doctrine.
- 25 JUSTICE BARRETT: Was its debut in

- 1 Bryan?
- 2 MR. YANG: No, no. This goes back
- 3 quite a long ways. This goes to, you know,
- 4 infringements on tribal sovereignty and the
- 5 recognition that it's generally only the United
- 6 States that -- that governs dependent sovereigns
- 7 like tribes.
- 8 JUSTICE BARRETT: So it's like a
- 9 sub-Indian canon canon?
- 10 MR. YANG: I'm not sure that I'm
- 11 prepared to put a proper label on it, but I can
- say that it exists in Bryan, which came through
- 13 Cabazon, and Bryan itself was -- this is cited
- 14 actually on pages 16 to 17 of our brief. We
- 15 discuss Bryan and some of the principles
- 16 underlying Bryan.
- 17 JUSTICE BARRETT: Okay. Thank you.
- 18 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you,
- 19 counsel.
- MR. YANG: Thank you.
- 21 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Ms. Pettit.
- 22 ORAL ARGUMENT OF LANORA C. PETTIT
- ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT
- MS. PETTIT: Thank you, Mr. Chief
- 25 Justice, and may it please the Court:

1	In the 1980s, everybody in this case
2	wanted something. The tribe wanted federal
3	recognition and was willing to cede some of its
4	sovereignty. Texas wanted to avoid high-stakes
5	gambling, which it saw as an invitation to
6	organized crime, and was willing to cede some of
7	its jurisdiction.
8	The federal government was split about
9	how to balance these sovereign interests. So
10	every so everyone made concessions, which are
11	embodied in the Restoration Act. The tribe got
12	its recognition and may offer gambling to the
13	same extent as other Texans, but further
14	gambling is banned under federal law.
15	The tribe asks to rewrite this
16	legislative bargain based on Cabazon Band, but
17	it's admitted that Cabazon Band did not address
18	how to interpret a statute that federalizes
19	state law. Its effort to extend Cabazon Band
20	suffers from three primary faults.
21	First, it ignores that when it comes
22	to gambling, the Restoration Act departs from
23	the Cabazon Band framework by treating both
24	civil and criminal penalties and civil and
25	criminal regulatory jurisdiction the same way.

1 Second, it overlooks that the Cabazon 2 Band test was written to avoid a form of state encroachment into tribal affairs that isn't 3 possible when a federal court is applying 4 5 federal law. And, third, it depends on a definition 6 7 of jurisdiction that disregards the close tie between that term in the 1980s and an 8 9 adjudicator's ability to decide a case. That's 10 how it's used in Public Law 280, in 11 Section 105(f), and, as Justice Kagan noted, in 12 Section 107(c). 13 Applying that same definition to 14 107(b), regulatory jurisdiction encompasses a 15 state administrative agency's ability to 16 exercise oversight through, among other things, 17 reporting requirements, inspections, and 18 ultimately enforcement actions, not the state's 19 larger ability to set substantive limits on 20 gambling. 21 I welcome this Court's questions. 2.2 JUSTICE THOMAS: Counsel, could you 23 give me an example of a regulatory law or rule that applies -- a gaming -- a regulation of 24 25 gaming laws that applies to tribes that do not

1 fall under 107(a)? 2 MS. PETTIT: I'm not --3 JUSTICE THOMAS: I'm sorry, that would be covered -- would not count as a prohibition 4 under 107(a)? 5 6 MS. PETTIT: To the extent -- so 107 7 -- prohibition, as it's generally understood, means it's unlawful. There is -- a regulation 8 9 that would apply to somebody who's not the tribe 10 that wouldn't be a prohibition would, for 11 example, be that the Texas Lottery Commission 12 can typically get access to passwords so that 13 people -- they can -- would have an ongoing 14 oversight into the way that software functions. 15 That's a regulation that wouldn't 16 apply to the tribe because it's not a 17 prohibition relating to gaming activity. 18 JUSTICE THOMAS: Now we -- there's 19 been some discussion as to the -- the difference 20 between prohibition and regulation. 21 Would you comment on that? I mean, 2.2 you've heard all the arguments. 23 MS. PETTIT: So prohibition in this 24 context and as generally understood can include a regulation except for, as Justice Barrett 25

- 1 noted a couple of times, Cabazon Band.
- 2 So the regulation distinction made in
- 3 Cabazon Band was specific to Public Law 280,
- 4 which was trying to decide the difference
- 5 between criminal and civil laws, which is a
- 6 question not presented by the Restoration Act.
- 7 JUSTICE THOMAS: So there seems to be
- 8 by counsel a suggestion that the mere fact that
- 9 any group could participate in bingo, for
- 10 example, the veterans organization or the
- 11 churches, that even if it's outlawed, as to
- other organizations or for profit, that that is
- 13 not a prohibition.
- MS. PETTIT: Under their view, that's
- my understanding. But it's still a prohibition
- 16 under Texas law because it goes to a fundamental
- 17 problem with the public policy shorthand for the
- 18 criminal/civil jurisdiction distinction that
- 19 Cabazon Band was trying to make because, as
- 20 Justice Alito pointed out, a -- a prohibition is
- 21 still a matter of public policy, even if it
- includes exceptions when it's not -- when the
- 23 activity is not prohibited.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I'm sorry,
- 25 counsel. Could you explain that more clearly to

- 1 me?
- 2 Just earlier you said to Justice
- 3 Thomas that a regulation that wouldn't apply to
- 4 the Indians would be one that required their
- 5 passwords to play the game, correct?
- 6 MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor.
- 7 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: And I assume
- 8 that's because you recognize that the
- 9 prohibition is on -- on playing bingo, not on
- 10 how you play bingo, correct?
- 11 MS. PETTIT: On the gaming activity,
- 12 yes, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: All right. So how
- is that different than what you just said?
- 15 Meaning --
- MS. PETTIT: So --
- 17 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- a financial
- 18 requirement, the password requirement, I don't
- 19 know how you can read that into gaming
- 20 activities which are prohibited by, because
- 21 bingo's not prohibited by. What does it matter
- 22 whether it's a not-for-profit or not?
- MS. PETTIT: So the bingo outside of
- 24 the limited affirmative jurisdiction -- sorry.
- 25 The offense to prosecution is what the Bingo

- 1 Enabling Act is. So any bingo that is not --
- 2 that is not conducted pursuant to the Bingo
- 3 Enabling Act is prohibited as a matter of Texas
- 4 criminal law.
- 5 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: You can't play
- 6 bingo unless you give the password?
- 7 MS. PETTIT: No, Your Honor.
- 8 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: You can't play
- 9 bingo unless you meet certain financial
- 10 requirements. You can't play bingo because
- 11 you're not a not-for-profit.
- MS. PETTIT: No, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I don't know where
- 14 I draw those lines.
- MS. PETTIT: So the password example
- that I gave was a regulation applicable to the
- 17 bingo -- to the -- in the larger bingo
- 18 regulatory framework of Texas law that does not
- apply to the tribe because it doesn't go to the
- 20 gaming activity. The gaming activity could
- 21 for -- to take the Chief Justice's example, be a
- distinction between low-stakes bingo under \$100
- or the distinction in Texas of over 750.
- 24 The state's regulatory interests or
- 25 the state's prohibitory interests, however you

- 1 want to frame it, is different between
- 2 low-stakes and high-stakes gambling.
- 3 So the use of the term "law" is
- 4 another -- is another focus under 107(a), and
- 5 both the tribe and the United States focused on
- 6 a earlier version of the bill that ultimately
- 7 became the statute that included the terms
- 8 "laws" and "regulations."
- 9 But, under this Court's precedent, the
- 10 term "laws" typically includes regulations, so
- 11 you can't really interpret anything by the
- deletion of redundant language in a draft bill.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: Counsel, what about
- 14 the other laws that were passed
- 15 contemporaneously with this one for other tribes
- that used broader language like "prohibit" or
- 17 "regulate"? Why shouldn't we look at the
- 18 contrast between this more precise or narrower
- 19 language and those?
- 20 MS. PETTIT: By looking at the context
- of each of the statutes, each of the statutes
- 22 they cite is a settlement act that is enabling a
- 23 preexisting agreement between the parties to
- 24 litigation.
- 25 So those -- the language that Your

- 1 Honor is citing is maybe the language that the
- 2 parties determined was necessary, but it doesn't
- 3 give much of an indication, if any, about what
- 4 Congress would have determined was necessary if
- 5 it was on its own.
- 6 And this also goes to the larger
- 7 context of the Restoration Act because the term
- 8 "prohibit" and the term "regulate" were in the
- 9 Restoration Act before Cabazon Band.
- 10 After Cabazon Band, in the Senate,
- 11 there was two -- there were two distinct changes
- to both 107(a) and 107(b) that show a departure
- from Cabazon Band which expressly linked the
- 14 concept of civil and regulatory and criminal and
- prohibitory, that is, the insertion of civil and
- 16 criminal penalties in respect to prohibitions in
- 17 107(a) and the phrase -- and the insertion of
- 18 "and criminal" into a preexisting statute that
- 19 said civil regulatory jurisdiction.
- 20 JUSTICE BREYER: So, if I -- I take it
- 21 the difference is you think the words "prohibit"
- 22 -- "prohibited by the laws" refers to all the
- 23 prohibitions by the criminal laws. And they
- 24 think it refers to the -- there is a distinction
- between regulatory and prohibiting it outright.

- 1 Okay.
- MS. PETTIT: Yeah.
- 3 JUSTICE BREYER: And the whole key
- 4 here is are they referring to Cabazon, as they
- 5 think, or are they thinking back to -- back to
- 6 the resolution, where they said we don't even
- 7 want Texas. You know, that's the big
- 8 difference.
- 9 And everybody is looking at different
- 10 other statutes which may or may not cast some
- 11 light. Okay. I think I know the answer, but,
- 12 look, I'm in an odd position. I'm like the
- 13 light brigade. I have cannons to the left of me
- and cannons to the right of me, and I'm going
- into the valley of death, charged the 400, but,
- I mean, there used to be ways of finding these
- 17 things out.
- 18 You went and you read the report of
- 19 the Senate committee or the House committee or
- 20 the conference committee, and you read the
- 21 testimony before the committees, and you read
- 22 what the Justice Department told them or the
- 23 Department of the Interior, and you read what
- other people said on the floor perhaps, and
- 25 sometimes but not always that, in fact, shed

- 1 some light on the proper answer.
- 2 So my question is, if, pursuing my odd
- 3 single path perhaps, I did that here, would I
- 4 find anything?
- 5 MS. PETTIT: You would find the Senate
- 6 report, which is the only report that deals with
- 7 the final version of the statute, and the Senate
- 8 report said that the addition of civil and
- 9 criminal penalties, what I just mentioned, was
- designed to build upon what the House was making
- 11 -- what the House had originally amended to say
- just prohibit to make clear that civil penalties
- were also applicable, which we respectfully
- 14 suggest supports our cause.
- 15 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, I -- I
- 16 -- I pressed your friend, Mr. Martin, a little
- 17 bit on the tribal resolution, which I think is
- 18 very strong evidence for you. On the other
- 19 hand, his answer that, well, that wasn't
- 20 addressed in the final bill, it was a
- 21 predecessor bill, also seemed pretty good.
- Do you have an answer to that?
- MS. PETTIT: Your Honor, the
- 24 resolution may have been passed in response to
- 25 the -- to a prior bill, but it is incorporated

- 1 into the text or it's at least referenced in the
- 2 text of the actual bill that was passed and
- 3 became law, so that has to be given some
- 4 meaning. And the fact that it was aimed at a
- 5 different bill is not dispositive one way or the
- 6 other.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: Ms. Pettit, if -- if,
- 8 you know, this just said "prohibit" and we were
- 9 in a world where we didn't have any context on
- 10 the page or otherwise, I think you would win.
- 11 The question is, do we have so much
- 12 context about "prohibit" being used in a
- 13 specialized way that you lose? And I -- I guess
- 14 I would just point you to a few things and ask
- 15 you to address them one by one.
- So the first is 105(f), which I take
- it you acknowledge incorporates Public Law 280,
- and Public Law 280 had just been interpreted in
- 19 Cabazon as having this prohibitory/regulatory
- 20 distinction.
- MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: The second is 107(b),
- 23 which specifically talks about criminal
- 24 regulatory jurisdiction. Now there's a question
- 25 as to what kinds of -- what kind of jurisdiction

- 1 it's talking about here because jurisdiction is
- 2 used in two different senses in this statute,
- 3 but I think that Mr. Yang has an awfully good
- 4 argument that when they're talking about
- 5 regulatory jurisdiction, they're not talking
- 6 about it in the which court sense, they're
- 7 talking about it in the Cabazon sense.
- 8 So -- so it says, you know, we don't
- 9 want to give the state regulatory jurisdiction,
- meaning the state doesn't have any regulatory
- 11 power here.
- Then the third thing would be what
- 13 Justice Barrett said, I think you've responded
- 14 to that, the other statutes passed around the
- same time, actually, on the same day, right,
- that clearly understand the Cabazon
- 17 prohibitory/regulatory distinction.
- 18 So you take all of those together, and
- 19 this is what I meant when I said to Mr. Yang
- 20 Cabazon is, like, written all over this statute.
- 21 It's not just like we have a world in which we
- 22 say: Oh, didn't they know about Cabazon? Would
- 23 that have affected what they were doing? I
- 24 mean, Cabazon is in this statute in multiple
- 25 places. So why isn't it in this statute in a

- way that defeats your claim here?
- MS. PETTIT: So, in Cabazon, this
- 3 Court used the phrase "regulatory authority,"
- 4 not "regulatory jurisdiction." When referring
- 5 to the power to set laws, this Court has
- 6 typically used the term "legislative
- 7 jurisdiction," which is tellingly not the word
- 8 that Congress had selected.
- 9 Moreover, the -- and I would point --
- 10 he made a comment post-Arbaugh that you try to
- 11 be more careful about jurisdiction. I think
- 12 that in the 1980s there was a very clear tie
- 13 between jurisdiction and an adjudicative
- officer, not necessarily a court. And I would
- point you to the Fifth Edition of Black's Law
- 16 Dictionary, which was published in about 1983,
- 17 which specifically discusses jurisdiction in
- 18 those terms.
- 19 So it may not be a court-specific
- 20 term, but absent the phrase "legislative
- 21 jurisdiction," it does tend to have an
- 22 adjudicative meaning. So that is where -- and
- it's used consistently in 105(f), which Your
- 24 Honor referenced, in that -- in that sense. And
- 25 it's used in 107(c) in that sense. And so it

- 1 would make sense to use it in 107(b) in that
- 2 sense to avoid the charge of the light brigade
- 3 with various cannons.
- 4 So, in that -- in reading it in the
- 5 larger context of how that term was used in the
- 6 '80s, as opposed to, for example, in the
- 7 mid-2000s, after this Court's case of City of
- 8 Arlington against FCC, where you equated
- 9 authority and jurisdiction, helps to clarify any
- 10 ambiguities.
- 11 So that's all I have. I'm happy to
- 12 answer any --
- 13 JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Given -- given
- 14 Cabazon -- sorry to interrupt. Given Cabazon,
- why wouldn't it have been obvious to members of
- 16 Congress to say something like the following if
- 17 you wanted to do this, like "all Texas law
- 18 regulating gaming activities applies to gaming
- 19 activities on the reservation and lands of the
- 20 tribe"? Why --
- MS. PETTIT: So --
- JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: I mean, in other
- words, boy, there's this case, we better be
- 24 careful. And we're in the world where we're
- assuming Congress is responding to the case.

1	So why wouldn't the people who wanted
2	this broader authority to extend have been we
3	need to we need to be careful about this and
4	doesn't the then the absence of that suggest
5	something that that hurts your case here?
6	MS. PETTIT: Two responses.
7	First, I heard a lot from both the
8	United States and from the tribe that said that
9	Cabazon Band was was especially informative
LO	because of the context. But Cabazon Band
L1	addressed may have the facts of Cabazon Band,
L2	may have been relating to gambling, but it
L3	addressed a statute that applied across the
L4	board equally to Texas and to regulation of
L5	pharmaceuticals or a number of the other
L6	hypotheticals we've had today.
L7	So why Congress would have necessarily
L8	said: Well, Cabazon Band defines exactly what
L9	term we have for gambling, it it's not nearly
20	as close as that.
21	And I believe Justice Alito asked a
22	few minutes ago how you determine whether you
23	are going to apply a canon about assuming
24	Congress or it might have been Justice Kagan
25	I apologize about when you assume Congress

1 was understanding the particular context. 2 Normally, this Court does that when you have a well-established term that's been 3 used a number of times, whereas, here, you have 4 just the term "prohibit," which is a commonly 5 6 used statutory term, it's been interpreted once 7 in a case that respectfully is not the most precise case this course -- Court has ever 8 9 issued. And so assuming that Congress enter --10 intended to enact and make permanent for all tribes for all uses of "prohibit" based on this 11 12 one case would be taking that canon too far. 13 And the best way I think I can point 14 this to is differences between the language of 15 IGRA, which, for example, does track Cabazon 16 Band in that it says prohibits as a matter of 17 criminal law or public policy in 2701(5). 18 That's not the phrase that we have in 19 -- in the Restoration Act. That is -- what we 20 have simply is the use of the common term "prohibit." You see that again in 2710 when 21 2.2 you're talking about when -- when Congress is 23 talking about when the state can or the tribe 24 can engage in activity which is whether the

state prohibit -- permits it for any purpose,

- 1 for any person, entity, or organization.
- 2 Again, that tracks the Cabazon Band
- 3 prohibition -- prohibition language much more
- 4 closely than here, where we just have that term
- 5 "prohibit."
- JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Was -- wasn't it
- 7 obvious or wouldn't it have been obvious that
- 8 what happens when a state allows an activity but
- 9 regulates it heavily, can those regulations
- 10 apply to the tribes? Wasn't that an obvious
- 11 question and wouldn't that have been addressed
- in a different way, I guess, again, if we're in
- this world where we're trying to speculate what
- 14 Congress was thinking?
- MS. PETTIT: This is why it's always
- 16 dangerous to speculate what Congress was
- 17 thinking.
- JUSTICE KAVANAUGH: Yeah, that's a
- 19 good answer.
- 20 MS. PETTIT: But laws -- laws
- 21 typically does include -- does -- do -- the term
- 22 "laws" typically does include regulations,
- 23 unless Congress specifies otherwise, which it
- 24 didn't do here.
- 25 And this goes back to a number of the

- 1 questions we've had today about the signage that
- 2 is at -- at casinos and whether that would apply
- 3 to the tribe. And it doesn't because it doesn't
- 4 go to the gaming activity as this Court defined
- 5 that in Bay Mills, where it was the -- the -- I
- 6 think the words of the Court were the throw of
- 7 the dice or the turn of the wheel, the actual
- 8 game that's being played and not the offsite
- 9 administrative or regulatory body, so --
- JUSTICE BARRETT: But, Ms. Pettit, why
- 11 would it make sense? You know, here, in 107(c),
- 12 the federal court is given jurisdiction if the
- state wants to bring an action for an injunction
- to stop, in your view, regulatory violations on
- 15 the gaming activity.
- 16 Why would it make sense to enlist
- 17 federal district courts to police all these
- 18 aspects of gaming? It -- it just seems to me
- 19 like that would be an odd system.
- 20 MS. PETTIT: So the -- we are only
- 21 entitled to bring a -- an injunctive action for
- violations of the substantive limitations on
- 23 gambling, not the regulations that don't go to
- the gaming activities, but it does make sense
- because, as the United States pointed out, the

- 1 tribe was very against the direct application of
- 2 state laws in state courts, which was the issue
- 3 in Cabazon Band.
- 4 So there isn't the direct application
- of state law here. There's this third party, a
- 6 federal judge that is a -- neutral might be a
- 7 loaded term for this context, but I'll use it
- 8 anyway -- a neutral arbiter to apply the issue
- 9 rather than having to, for example, go into the
- 10 state's home court.
- 11 JUSTICE KAGAN: But it's a huge --
- 12 JUSTICE BARRETT: Let me clarify. I
- 13 think I misspoke. I didn't mean -- I mean, I
- 14 know that you concede that you don't have
- 15 regulatory jurisdiction in the sense of an
- 16 agency oversight and all these other aspects,
- 17 but I'm talking about the disputed number of
- things, once bingo is allowed, is it, you know,
- 19 allowed by non-charitable organizations? Is it
- 20 allowed for profit? Is it allowed above this
- amount, those kinds of things?
- I mean, the district courts in Texas
- 23 have complained about all of these things
- 24 heading to the district court.
- 25 MS. PETTIT: So the district courts

- 1 have said that a version of the -- a previous
- 2 injunction issued in 2002 had turned them into a
- 3 sort of pre-clearance type of regime that hadn't
- 4 been contemplated by the Restoration Act. We
- 5 agree that wasn't contemplated by the
- 6 Restoration Act, but it was necessitated by the
- 7 tribe's actions, who had not attempted to comply
- 8 with the Restoration Act.
- 9 But, fortunately, we're no longer in
- 10 that regime. We have brought a separate
- 11 complaint, and most of the issues that are
- 12 covered in the current injunction before the
- 13 Court are statutory ones, not regulations.
- 14 JUSTICE KAGAN: Right. But your
- position requires you to accept the idea that,
- 16 for example, if Texas has a statute that says
- 17 bingo has to end at 1 a.m. and instead it goes
- to 1:10, that all of a sudden that's a federal
- 19 crime adjudicable in federal court.
- I mean, that's your position. It's
- 21 not -- you know, the other person -- side's
- 22 position is essentially no, the federal courts
- are there when Texas has a statute that says no
- table games, and all of a sudden a casino opens
- 25 up with craps, but your position is like

- 1 everything, you know, the -- the -- the
- 2 amount of the betting, the hours, the -- the --
- 3 the -- I mean, everything that relates to the
- 4 turn of the wheel or whatever, and that's a lot
- 5 of stuff.
- 6 MS. PETTIT: But it does create a
- 7 blight -- a bright-line rule, Your Honor, which
- 8 gets the federal court out of the second
- 9 question that would be necessitated by applying
- 10 Cabazon Band, namely whether one particular
- 11 restriction or another is a matter of
- 12 fundamental state public policy, and there are
- 13 law and order concerns that sometimes drive
- 14 issues like closing down gambling halls at
- midnight or limiting the amount of money that is
- 16 at stake because there is a -- there -- it's a
- 17 different regulatory and a different public
- 18 policy and a different just risk involved in
- 19 some term -- in some forms of gaming.
- 20 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Counsel, you argue
- 21 at some length that the Cabazon distinction
- 22 between "prohibition" and "regulation" is
- 23 unworkable. Are you asking us to overturn
- 24 Cabazon?
- MS. PETTIT: No, Your Honor, that's

- 1 not necessary in this case because, as my
- 2 opposing counsel has conceded, this is about
- 3 federalizing state law, and Cabazon doesn't --
- 4 specifically declined to address that question.
- 5 JUSTICE GORSUCH: But that -- but that
- 6 -- that -- that -- that's not -- that's not
- 7 quite what I'm getting at. You -- you say the
- 8 distinction between "prohibition" and
- 9 "regulation" just generally is not workable.
- 10 MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor. So --
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: Wouldn't that logic
- 12 seem to suggest, if that's true, then -- then --
- then Cabazon, we should just get rid of it and
- scrap it and -- and the consequences for IGRA be
- 15 damned?
- MS. PETTIT: So the consequences for
- 17 IGRA, I respectfully disagree with the United
- 18 States, would not be significant because IGRA
- incorporated the pieces of Cabazon Band that it
- 20 thought were necessary in the language that I
- 21 previously quoted. But the Court doesn't need
- 22 to revoke the or repeal -- overturn the Cabazon
- 23 Band distinction for the -- for the
- 24 circumstances to which it applies.
- 25 JUSTICE GORSUCH: So you're not asking

- 1 us to overturn Cabazon?
- MS. PETTIT: No, Your Honor.
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: And you're asking us
- 4 to continue to apply that in the IGRA context?
- 5 MS. PETTIT: I'm asking you to
- 6 continue to apply IGRA in the IGRA context,
- 7 which incorporates pieces.
- 8 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Which incorporates
- 9 Cabazon?
- 10 MS. PETTIT: Pieces of Cabazon but not
- 11 necessarily all of it.
- 12 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Okay. But just this
- is the one area where we're not going to apply
- 14 Cabazon? That's -- that's your view?
- MS. PETTIT: Yes, because the language
- of the statute itself departs from Cabazon Band
- 17 and in response to Justice Kavanaugh's --
- 18 JUSTICE GORSUCH: And that -- that
- 19 hinges on whether we -- we agree with your
- 20 reading of the statute and the enactment the
- 21 same day involving the tribe in Massachusetts,
- 22 right?
- MS. PETTIT: It involves -- it
- 24 definitely depends on your agreement that by
- 25 slicing and dicing up civil and criminal

- 1 regulatory and prohibitory, that Congress
- 2 intended to depart from Cabazon Band, yes.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: But, Ms. Pettit, why
- 4 is it uniquely unworkable in this context? Mr.
- 5 Yang said, look, this has been humming along,
- 6 everybody's been living with Cabazon Band and
- 7 this distinction between "prohibit" and
- 8 "regulate" in Public Law 280 and in IGRA. So
- 9 why is it so uniquely unworkable in this
- 10 context?
- MS. PETTIT: So the lower courts have
- 12 suggested that Mr. Yang is incorrect on that
- point, that, in fact, it's difficult to derive a
- single rule between what is prohibitory and what
- is regulatory precisely because many of the
- things that are nominally prohibitory are very
- 17 close -- very close concerns of state public
- 18 policy, so they just don't track. And to --
- 19 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Well, isn't that an
- 20 argument for overturning it in IGRA too and just
- 21 getting rid of it?
- MS. PETTIT: So IGRA incorporated a
- 23 specific part of Cabazon Band that allows the
- 24 tribe in 2710 to engage in Class II gaming,
- 25 which permits them to -- if the state permits it

- 1 under any person, any purpose, any organization.
- 2 So that is a different term than
- 3 prohibitory or regulatory and trying to combine
- 4 --
- 5 JUSTICE GORSUCH: I understand that.
- 6 But -- but -- but if -- you're -- you're --
- 7 you're saying it doesn't work well under IGRA.
- 8 You're disputing Mr. Yang on that.
- 9 MS. PETTIT: So I'm --
- JUSTICE GORSUCH: But you're saying
- 11 this is somehow unique, and I guess I'm
- 12 struggling, like -- like -- like my colleague,
- 13 to understand how -- how it's uniquely
- 14 problematic here but -- but less problematic, I
- 15 guess, under IGRA?
- 16 MS. PETTIT: Maybe I misspoke earlier.
- 17 IGRA -- the Public Law 280 prohibitory/
- 18 regulatory distinction itself is problematic
- 19 outside of IGRA because it doesn't have that any
- 20 purpose, any person, any language. That creates
- 21 a bright-line rule, whereas this Court
- 22 recognized in Cabazon Band itself that the
- 23 distinction based on what is or is not a matter
- of fundamental state public policy does not
- 25 create a blight -- bright-line rule.

1 JUSTICE GORSUCH: Right. So just back 2 to Justice Barrett's question, does it work well 3 under IGRA or not? MS. PETTIT: Texas doesn't have that 4 5 much experience under IGRA, so I'm not able to 6 answer that question. 7 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: It has some experience. It has the Kickapoo Tribe that's 8 9 operating under Class II gaming pursuant to 10 IGRA. So, right now, what you have is one tribe 11 under IGRA, another tribe completely out of 12 IGRA, and even worse, you're saying it wasn't even intended to be run like the regulatory 13 14 prohibition line that Cabazon approved, correct? 15 MS. PETTIT: Correct. 16 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So you want a 17 system that's unique to everything, to Cabazon, to Bryan, to every other tribe, and you want to 18 19 create a totally different system now? 20 MS. PETTIT: Congress created a 21 bespoke legislative solution here. 2.2 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: That's assuming we 23 accept your argument --24 MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor. 25 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- that that was

- 1 Congress's intent.
- MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor. That,
- 3 and the Kickapoo -- the -- my response earlier
- 4 was that we do not regulate the Kickapoo, so we
- 5 do not have much insight into what they're doing
- 6 inside their casino, so it's very difficult for
- 7 me to say whether it's been a problem.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Well, anybody can
- 9 walk in and play.
- 10 MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor. But
- 11 that one --
- 12 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So you can see
- what they're doing, whether it -- what it's
- 14 violating, if you chose.
- MS. PETTIT: I suspect the tribe would
- object if we were to send a peace officer in
- 17 without permission to inspect.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Who said a peace
- 19 officer? Anybody could walk in. You could send
- 20 a peace officer, but --
- MS. PETTIT: A -- a state employee
- 22 could go in without authority and examine it in
- 23 their personal capacity, but that's not
- typically how laws are enforced.
- 25 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you,

Τ	counsel.
2	Justice Thomas?
3	Justice Breyer, anything further?
4	Justice Alito?
5	JUSTICE ALITO: Suppose you scrapped
6	your laws about bingo and you enacted a statute
7	that says that under specified circumstances, a
8	type of gambling called Texas Traditional Board
9	Game is allowed, and you defined that involving
10	a board and et cetera, et cetera.
11	But this is not bingo. This is the
12	Traditional Texas Board Game. Then would bingo
13	be prohibited, or would it be regulated?
14	MS. PETTIT: If we scrapped the Texas
15	Bingo Enabling Act, it would fall within the
16	constitutional prohibitions on lottery and it
17	would be prohibited. It's still prohibited
18	outside the Bingo Enabling Act, but it would be
19	flatly prohibited under state law.
20	JUSTICE ALITO: So this all turns on
21	the fact that you've you've used the term
22	"bingo" and that in the the you know,
23	there is the form of bingo up there and so the
24	next court is going to decide whether this is
25	bingo or not?

1	MS. PETTIT: No, Your Honor. This
2	depends on the the word "bingo" is not the
3	relevant question here. And it may be useful to
4	answer your question to distinguish this from
5	the facts in California's instance in Cabazon
6	Band, where they generally permitted gambling
7	except that which we prohibited.
8	Texas has the exact opposite
9	presumption. We have a strong public policy and
LO	all gambling is banned under the constitution
L1	unless specifically authorized. The Bingo
L2	Enabling Act specifically authorizes
L3	small-stakes bingo under very limited
L4	circumstances as a defense to prosecution.
L5	But, if if we were to scrap that
L6	Bingo Enabling Act, it would the contact
L7	the conduct of the tribe in this instance would
L8	fall within the state's constitutional ban on
L9	lotteries.
20	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Justice
21	Sotomayor, anything further?
22	Justice Gorsuch?
23	Justice Barrett?
24	JUSTICE BARRETT: I just have one
5	question. If you lost and we vacated and

- 1 remanded and so then the district court has to
- 2 face the question of whether these electronic
- 3 bingo games count as bingo, you just revert to
- 4 the Texas definition and I gather it's Texas's
- 5 position that these electronic machines would
- 6 not count as bingo?
- 7 MS. PETTIT: Yes, Your Honor, because
- 8 they are slot machines. They -- they do not
- 9 have the competitive aspect of bingo because
- 10 what -- I believe somebody referred to their
- 11 grandmother earlier, that is a -- you are
- 12 matching numbers and the first person to reach a
- 13 particular pattern wins. And, here, you have
- one card and it is an instant game that is drawn
- 15 against a historic -- a historic bingo draw, and
- 16 that's just not bingo.
- 17 JUSTICE BARRETT: And you'd make that
- 18 argument based on Texas law?
- 19 MS. PETTIT: Under the Restoration
- 20 Act, we would. It's the same issue under IGRA,
- 21 which is why the United States was very careful
- 22 to say that the question of whether or not this
- is actually bingo under IGRA is a very close
- 24 one.
- JUSTICE BARRETT: Thank you.

1	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you,
2	counsel.
3	Mr. Martin, rebuttal?
4	REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF BRANT C. MARTIN
5	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS
6	MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chief Justice, and
7	may it please the Court. Four quick points.
8	First of all, in response to a
9	question from the bench, I I think that the
10	Justices you certainly understand the
11	distinction and the difficulty that the State of
12	Texas has with making the distinction as to
13	where the regulatory line starts and where the
14	regulatory line stops.
15	If they wanted the passwords, they had
16	to get the passwords. When is that not
17	regulation and when is it if they can, in fact,
18	regulate? And the problem is is that their
19	position requires them to take the position that
20	the entirety of the regulatory construct of
21	Texas law, and this is the same thing the Fifth
22	Circuit said in Ysleta I, is that the entirety
23	of the regulatory construct applies to the
24	tribes. That's not what 107(b) says.
25	And in response to some of the

- 1 jurisdictional questions, Section 105(f) grants
- 2 civil and criminal jurisdiction to grant the
- 3 Public Law 280 authority. Jurisdiction there
- 4 means the substantive authority; it's not
- 5 limited to court jurisdiction.
- 6 Section 107(b)'s use of the
- 7 jurisdiction is the same. Section 107(c) is
- 8 different, and it specifically says jurisdiction
- 9 over enforcement.
- 10 And there was one other aspect of --
- of what the State of Texas has -- has argued
- 12 just now in this case that I think is --
- deserves to be said. There's been a lot of
- 14 discussion about whether or not Cabazon applies,
- you know, are we stuck in the Cabazon context,
- 16 et cetera.
- 17 Two things I would point out. Justice
- 18 Breyer, I would point out that Representative
- 19 Udall, who was the chairman of the applicable
- 20 subcommittee, stated on the House floor this is
- 21 intended to incorporate Cabazon.
- That's important. The Senate report
- that was cited by the State of Texas references
- 24 the old language that Congress excised, and that
- 25 should be taken into account.

1	Finally, Your Honor, I would point out
2	I can't remember exactly how the State of Texas
3	just put it, but they were talking about
4	Section 107 and they said that it applies to
5	everything, not just gaming. Section 107 is
6	entitled "Indian Gaming." It is entitled it
7	is intended to govern that exact situation in
8	response to Cabazon.
9	And if there's no further questions.
10	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you,
11	counsel. The case is submitted.
12	(Whereupon, at 11:33 a.m., the case
13	was submitted.)
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