SLS 12RS-1551

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY SENATOR LAFLEUR

INDIAN AFFAIRS. Formally recognizes, and requests the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Louisiana congressional delegation to take appropriate action to formally recognize the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webbers Falls, Oklahoma as an American Indian tribe.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1 2 To formally recognize and to urge and request the United States government, particularly the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior 3 and the members of the Louisiana congressional delegation, to take appropriate 4 5 action to formally recognize the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webbers Falls, Oklahoma 74470, as an American Indian tribe. 6 7 WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced many American Indians living 8 east of the Mississippi River to sell their land and move to less fertile lands on a western 9 reservation, and the five tribes most affected were the Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, 10 Seminole, and Cherokee; and 11 WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused these five American Indian tribes to embark on what came to be known as "The Trail of Tears" from 1830 to 1842; and 12 13 WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small groups of 14 the five American Indian tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into Louisiana, 15 settling near the central and western part of Louisiana in Rapides, Vernon, Old Imperial Calcasieu, and Natchitoches parishes, in an area known as "No Man's Land" or "Rio Hondo"; 16 17 and 18 WHEREAS, federal and state jurisprudence recognizes that a child born of a white Page 1 of 3

father and American Indian mother who is a recognized member of the tribe of American
 Indians to which his mother belongs, is also an American Indian; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of
Webbers Falls, Oklahoma 74470, whose local address is 2506 Sam Cloud Road, Oakdale,
Louisiana 71463, is a domestic tribe, that has participated in Native American Month
ceremonies at Fort Polk's invitation; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has consistently recognized the American Indian
tribes within its borders, supported their aspirations for the preservation of their cultural
heritage and the improvement of their economic conditions, and assisted them in their just
rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana formally
recognizes the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of Cherokee Nation of Webbers
Falls, Oklahoma 74470, and its local address of 2506 Sam Cloud Road, Oakdale, in Allen
Parish, Louisiana as its tribal domicile.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge 16 and request the government of the United States of America, particularly the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior and the members 17 18 of the Louisiana congressional delegation, to take all necessary steps to formally recognize 19 the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webbers Falls, 20 Oklahoma 74470, whose local address is 2506 Sam Cloud Road, Oakdale, Louisiana 71463, 21 and to acknowledge that the rights of the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation are no less than that of other Indian tribes in the United States. 22

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, the members of Louisiana's congressional delegation, and the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior. LaFleur

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

SCR No.

Formally recognizes and requests the U.S. government, particularly the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior and the members of the La. congressional delegation, to take appropriate action to formally recognize the La. Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webbers Falls, Oklahoma 74470, as an American Indian tribe.