

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 10, 1977

The twenty-fifth meeting of the Senate Education Committee was called to order by Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman, in Room 402, State Capitol Building, at 11:00 O'clock A.M.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Committee were present with the exception of Senator George McCallum, who was excused.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18: A Resolution requesting the creation of a committee to study the collection, preservation, and dissemination of Montana's Historical and Cultural Records.

Dorothy Bradley, Representative from Bozeman, Montana, sponsor of the bill, was called upon to present her testimony. She stated this resolution would request the Committee on Priorities to conduct a study of the historical records of the state, as there had been a lot of problems in collecting and preserving historical records. She stated that a college student, with whom she had talked, had discovered there were many records missing when he was trying to do research to write a paper, and felt that no one could deny there was a need for such a study on the ghost towns in the state. She also stated that in the State Library, none of the 4600 volumes were insured, including the Lewis and Clarke Journals. Because of the lack of financial support, the archives of the museum have been unable to take care of the records and files that were stored there, and this situation doesn't lend itself to bring in more valuable papers and records for storeage, or for display. And she believes this study should be made to help clear up the situation.

No further proponents appeared to testify on the bill.

There was no opposition to the bill.

The Chairman then opened the Hearing for questions by the Committee. Senator Blaylock questioned the origin of the money used to build the State Historical Building and Russell Museum, commenting that there was still some conflict about the funds having been transferred from the Boxing Commission. To which Representative Bradley stated that she did not know about any funds being transferred for that purpose. Senator Warden commented that it certainly was a problem for the archives to preserve records for collection and that she didn't believe her bill conflicted with this resolution. She also commented that this could, perhaps, provide a method for the archives to collect historical records and to be able to pass information back and forth at the University level.

Chairman Blaylock suggested that Representative Bradley get together with Senator Warden to go over these two bills, to see that there wasn't an overlap. In response to Senator Fasbender's question regarding the preservation of historical sites around the state, Representative Bradley replied she understood there was another bill to give status to the ghost towns; but nothing had been introduced to preserve them, and felt it a real tragedy to have these things let go. In closing, Representative Bradley mentioned that a lot of Montana artifacts were being shipped out of the state, and felt this was a great loss and asked support of the Committee, so that these things could be handled in a better manner.

The Chairman closed the Hearing on House Joint Resolution 18.

Senator Bill Mathers moved that House Joint Resolution No. 18, be concurred in; this Motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. Senator Warden will carry the Resolution on the floor.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32: A Joint Resolution to preserve and perpetuate Indian culture and traditions in Montana and to recognize the freedom of Indian religious practices as a bona fide religion.

Representative Leo Kennerly, House District No. 14, sponsor of the bill, was called on to present his testimony. He stated that the Indians in the state wanted to have their religious practices recognized as a definite religious group. He stated further, that Montana had been okay in recognizing Indian culture and, basically supported it. The problem was with the Federal regulations and with getting the Federal Government to also recognize Indian Culture; and, that this Resolution will ask for the support of the State, so that Indians can ask Congress to recognize their freedom to practice their particular religious culture in the state.

Proponents of the Bill included: Lloyd Old Coyote, member of the Crow Tribe, who testified that most culture and beliefs of various groups, going back to the time of Christ, came from Europe; and, that these cultures were recognized, as most of them had mythical beginnings. But, in the viewpoint of the Indian, religious culture is a training and refinement in teaching of morals to their young people; that it is a practice of educational endeavor. Indians use nature itself, and also observe these things of somewhat of a supernatural being behind all things. This culture is taught to the Indian children and is applied to all of their lives. Indians want to take pride in their background and ask that this resolution be passed, allowing freedom of practice of their own beliefs. He then handed out Proclamations and position papers adopted by the National Tribal Counsel, and also, a statement from the Rocky Boy Reservation supporting the Resolution, and a copy of his statement, which is attached to these Minutes.

Harold E. Gray, from the Rocky Boy Reservation, stated they have a school that has professional policy of American culture and they

would like to see that Indian language and culture, as well as English, is taught in their schools. He further stated that Indians had not tried to convert other people to their Indian religious beliefs and that at one time they even had their religion outlawed by the government and had had members of the Chippewa and Cree tribes deported. Their main concern was that they would be allowed to carry on their traditions so that these practices were not lost; and asked that they be treated as equals and in keeping with their Constitutional rights.

John Quincy, from the Chippewa tribe. He stated that in working with Indian children, that they have a problem with identity crisis. That so much of the traditional Indian culture has been lost along the line that it is detrimental to their way of life. He believes the best place to inject this back into the Indian way of life is for these traditions to be taught in the schools, and believes it would be a good investment in the future, so that the Indian practices can be preserved in perpetuity.

Bill Packer, Indian Information Office, who stated he had helped plan and coordinate the conference between the tribes that had been held in Billings, in which they discussed religious sects and Indian religious traditions. From this council, it became very significant that there was a basic need for Indian religious traditions to be preserved.

Opponents of the Bill included:

Timothy D. Berry, representing the Montana Conference of Seventh Day Adventists. He stated his reason for being there was to make sure that each person had the right and freedom to worship their own God, in their own way, and agreed with the intent of the Resolution. Further testimony was presented in writing and it is attached to these Minutes, in which he suggested some amendments to the bill.

Senators Boylan and Dunkle questioned that they should be required to teach Indian religion in the schools, and also questioned if it would be a constitutional problem. Discussion of the proposed amendments resulted in the Chairman requesting Mr. Berry to work them out and submit a copy to Representative Kennerly, so that they may go over them. In closing, Representative Kennerly said he would have to see the amendments before they could agree on them, and that this was a resolution and not a bill. That they did not intend this to be a law, but he did not know if Indian religion would be a bona fide religious group, causing conflict between the state and the constitution and that it would be up to the courts to decide if there were such a conflict: That he realized it could be a controversial problem, and hoped the Committee would look on it as having no political effect.

The Chairman then opened the Hearing for questions by the Committee. Senator Blaylock questioned that if Representative Kennerly admitted the State says kind things about the Indian, then what would this

do, to which Representative Kennerly replied, it would endorse the Indian practices and their culture and religion, in the hope that this would help them get the Federal Government to recognize their culture and traditions, and that he, himself, had not been taught his own cultural background because there was a law against it. Senator Smith commented that he had attended an Indian Powwow; that he had not seen a more beautiful ceremony.

There being no further questions, the Hearing was closed on House Joint Resolution No. 32.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37: A Joint Resolution Directing the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to initiate policies to bring post-secondary and higher educational opportunities to all geographical areas of Montana, especially rural areas, such as Eastern Montana.

Representative Hirsch, District 37, sponsor of the Bill, was called on to present his testimony. He stated the purpose of this Resolution was to take a look at higher education accessibility in all areas of the state, but particularly, in Eastern Montana where it is so isolated from the Universities. He stated that educational opportunities could be increased by using resource people and those who live in the area and have degrees in these particular fields, to conduct classes for the local people in their own area.

Proponents of the Bill included:

Bill Lannan, from Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, who stated that one of his responsibilities was for continuing education programs, and felt very strongly that the units of the University system needed to provide more opportunities, through continuing education, for people in all areas of the state, especially those who are isolated and live in remote areas. They advocate a study, such as this, be conducted to determine the effect of college programs being available to persons in these outlying areas, at a college level, and offering college degrees. These courses are offered by the University System, and students do pay tuition charges, but are able to attend classes in their own area by having faculty members from the systems go out to the local areas, and also, using persons who have degrees in those particular fields. More people would be allowed to take advantage of higher education in this manner, and work towards getting a college degree. He would like to see this program supported in its concept, so that it may be funded.

No Witnesses appeared in opposition to the Bill.

The Hearing was opened for questions by the Committee. To Senator Warden's questions regarding courses from the university and libraries, Bill Lannan answered that he believed these were still funded under continuing education and were still available. Senator Blaylock questioned that if the continuing education program was self-supporting, what would the difference be, in asking for state help. Mr. Lannan replied that they felt there should be an opportunity for people living in outlying areas to improve themselves

through getting a college education and they should be allowed that opportunity to participate; that their proposal to the legislature includes a new policy of continuing education being included in the formula that produces the budget for the University System, which would be a change from being absolutely self-supporting to being partially state supported. Senator Boylan expressed concern about starting to dilute higher education in their very technical fields, such as engineering and mathematics, to the point where they could no longer be called, 'higher education,' Mr. Lannan replied that he doubted those course of very technical fields could be taken off the campus; but there were a number of courses that could be taken off-campus, and the faculty of the universities would determine which courses could be taken off campus. Senator Smith commented that to take on the whole concept was that of allowing courses to persons who couldn't quit their jobs and move away from home, and this would allow them that opportunity for a higher education in these outlying areas. Senator Fasbender questioned what the courses would be that could be taken off-campus. Mr. Lannan replied that he did not have the list with him; but that it would be subjects such a social services, history, and a lecture type of courses. Senator Fasbender expressed concern as to whose obligation it would be to pay the cost of this type of continuing education; whether it would be the state, or the individual taking the courses. Mr. Lannan replied that he thought it would be both the state, and the students; because of better service to the state by improvement of the individual. Senator Fasbender questioned how certain types of courses could be made available to Eastern Montana, to which Representative Hirsch responded that there would be certain kinds of courses that could utilize video programs, in addition to other methods, to bring courses to rural areas. Mr. Lannan added that, previously, people taking continuing education courses saw no definite goal or were able to get a college degree; and, with these programs, this would, indeed, be a possibility. Senator Smith commented that there were a lot of funds coming from Eastern Montana; but that there were no institutions in that area.

There being no further questions, the Hearing was closed on House Joint Resolution No. 37.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 619: An Act to make clear the Application of Retirement Fund Provisions to Community College Districts; to Change the Date for Community College Elections to the First Tuesday in April; to Increase Travel Expense Reimbursement of Trustees; to Clarify County Attorney's Duties; and to Generally Revise and Clarify Powers of Community College District Trustees; and Providing and Immediate Effective Date.

Representative Carrol South, House District No. 51, Miles City, Montana, sponsor of the bill, was called on to present his testimony. He stated this bill would revise the laws relating to community colleges, to bring them more in line with what the Board of Regents recommended. Some changes pertained to mileage reimbursement,

allowance for travel on the job, and also gave the Board authority to fire and hire the President. Problems first arose because Community Colleges started out the same as a School District, and this bill would alleviate a lot of these types of problems.

Proponents of the Bill included:

Bill Lannan, Community College Coordinator, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, who explained the bill section by section to the Committee to show the need for the revision of the Community College Education laws. He commented that the last section allows the County Attorney to be the chief legal advisor for Community Colleges, as previously, there was no definite legal counsel stated.

There was no opposition to the Bill.

There being no questions from the Committee, the Hearing on House Bill 619 was closed.

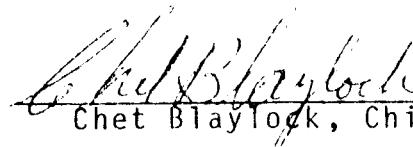
Senator Bill Mathers moved that House Bill 619 be concurred in; this Motion was seconded, and on unanimous vote, carried. Senator Mathers will carry the Bill on the floor.

Senator Ed Smith moved that House Joint Resolution No. 37, be concurred in. The Chairman called for discussion. Senator Fasbender commented that he didn't think much of resolutions, but that his main concern was the money involved in funding continuing education with state funds, when appropriations for more important matters, such as adult basic education also had to be funded. The question was called for, and on roll call vote, the be concurred in Motion failed with Senator Blaylock, Murry, Dunkle, Boylan, Fasbender, and Warden voting no.

Senator Fasbender moved that House Joint Resolution NO. 37, be not concurred in. On roll call vote, the Motion carried by a majority vote, with Senators Smith, McCallum, Mathers, and Thomas voting no.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

  
Chet Blaylock, Chairman



SENATE

Education COMMITTEEBILL H.R. 11, N.F. 11

VISITORS' REGISTER

DATE March  
12, 1977

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	(check one)	
			SUPPORT	OPPC.
<u>Dorothy Bradley</u>	<u>State Rep.</u>	<u>HJR 18</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Jim Horick</u>	<u>Representative Dist 52.</u>	<u>HJR 37</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Donna Powney</u>	<u>House Aide - <del>observing</del></u>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Leo Kinner Jr.</u>	<u>State Rep.</u>	<u>HJR 32</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Philip Mickey O. Coyote</u>	<u>Crow Tribe</u>	<u>HJR 32</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>John D. Lunny</u>	<u>Chippewa</u>	<u>32</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Harold E. Gray</u>	<u>Blackfoot</u>	<u>HJR 32</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>David Dean</u>	<u>Shepherd Mt.</u>			
<u>Frank Mitchell</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Theresa Wilson</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Conne Follensbee</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Sharon Bucher</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Valley Swartz</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Binky Brennan</u>	<u>Shepherd, MT</u>			
<u>Stewart Marsh</u>	<u>Shepherd MT</u>			
<u>Conne Spitzer</u>	<u>Shepherd MT</u>			
<u>Billy Euckle</u>	<u>Shepherd MT</u>			
<u>Bill Lunnar</u>	<u>OC HE</u>	<u>HJR 37</u> <u>HB 119</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Lea Shawles</u>	<u>Rte. 3, Billings</u>			
<u>Mike Riker</u>	<u>Billings, Mont.</u>			
<u>Ken Berg</u>	<u>Mt. Conference SDA</u>	<u>47 32</u>		
<u>John J. Fisher</u>	<u>Self</u>	<u>47 32</u>		
<u>Charles B. Banderob</u>	<u>Self</u> <u>visitor</u>			
<u>William Mathisak</u>	<u>Self</u> <u>visitor</u>			



SENATE Education COMMITTEE

BILL \_\_\_\_\_

VISITORS' REGISTER

DATE March  
10, 1977

NAME

REPRESENTING

BILL #

(check one)  
SUPPORT OPPOSE

Peter Frank  
Chief Red Cloud

Dark City Mon <sup>visitor</sup>  
Blackfoot

NAME:

Deborah Bradley

DATE:

2/10/77

ADDRESS:

421 N. Tracy, Bozeman

PHONE:

REPRESENTING WHOM?

State Rep

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

HIR 18

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

☒

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME:

DATE: 3 - 10 - 77

ADDRESS :

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## REPRESENTING WHOM?

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

DO YOU :

## SUPPORT?

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS :

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Lee A. V. V. V. V.

DATE: 9-10-77

ADDRESS: Bondage Stage, N. W. City, Mont.

PHONE: 442 - 2921 *He Leon*

REPRESENTING WHOM? HJR 37

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

SUPPORT?

*[Signature]*

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS :

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: LEO M. KENNEDY DATE: 3/10/71

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTING WHOM? State Rep

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HJR # 32

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: None

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Testimony Presented on House Joint Resolution No. 32  
by  
Timothy D. Berry #12-77  
Representing the Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventist

Because of the growing need to keep before the citizens of Montana the rich heritage of our native Americans, we are in favor of House Joint Resolution No. 32. There are however several problems which might effect the future of this resolution, such as:

1. page 2 lines 6-8 suggest considering certain cultures and traditions, to be classified as an orthodox Religion.

This appears to be paradoxical in that there are "traditions" within any religion, but usually an "orthodox" religion is not made from traditions and cultures.

This testimony is not questioning the fact that worship takes place within the Indian life style, rather simply that the traditions and cultures should not be classified as such, in themselves. It seems rather that they are a vehicle in worship.

2. page 2 lines 17-21, suggest that the state "encourage" and "perpetuate" this "new" orthodox religion of Indian "culture and religious traditions". Montana would therefore be resolving to have an established State Religion. This appears to be a direct violation of the 1st amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the Montana constitution (1972) as per an "establishment of religion". While it is true that native Americans are not bound by the U.S. Constitution the state of Montana is.

3. page 2, line 25-pg.3 lines 1,2 suggest that the government would police any unnecessary curtailment of the so named "cultures and traditions". It would thus mean that it would be illegal for a Christian Mission to evangelize the Indian peoples. If any evangelization was carried on, would it be at the risk of breaking down a state institution?

4. Since the State of Montana requires teachers in the public school system to teach Indian cultures and traditions, which would now be recognized as a "bona fide religion", this would suggest that they would be required to teach "religion" in the public school system. The same situation may later occur with the Black, Spanish, or European (ie. Hutterites) peoples.

Therefore we recommend the following amendments to House Joint Resolution No. 32:

Testimony Presented on House Joint Resolution No. 32

by

Timothy D. Berry #12-77

Representing the Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventist

Because of the growing need to keep before the citizens of Montana the rich heritage of our native Americans, we are in favor of House Joint Resolution No. 32. There are however several problems which might effect the future of this resolution, such as:

1. page 2 lines 5-7 suggest considering certain cultures and traditions, to be classified as an orthodox Religion.

This appears to be paradoxical in that there are "traditions" within any religion, but usually an "orthodox" religion is not made from traditions and cultures.

This testimony is not questioning the fact that worship takes place within the Indian life style, rather simply that the traditions and cultures should not be classified as such, in themselves. It seems rather that they are a vehicle in worship.

2. page 2 lines 16-20, suggest that the state "encourage" and "perpetuate" this "new" orthodox religion ~~from~~ Indian "culture and religious traditions". Montana would therefore be resolving to have an established State Religion. This appears to be a direct violation of the 1st amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the Montana constitution (1972) as per an "establishment of religion". *What is the purpose of this?*

3. page 2, lines 24, 25 suggest that the government would police any unnecessary curtailment of the so named "cultures and traditions".

*It would mean* This would mean that it would be illegal for a Christian Mission to evangelize the Indian peoples. If any evangelization was carried on, it would be at the risk of breaking down a state institution?

Therefore we recommend the following amendments to House Joint Resolution No. 32:

1. Amend page 2, lines 5-7

Following: line \*5

Strike: "That Indian culture and traditions be considered in the same

legal class as any other orthodox religion or sect in Montana."

2. Amend page 2, line 16

Following: line \*15

Strike: "worship"

Insert: "Traditional"

Amend page 2, line 11

Following: line 10

STATE OF MONTANA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the American Indian culture, tradition and history are the basis of the American Indian's identity, value system, and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the American Indian has lived in harmony with nature and has historically used the environment, wildlife, fowl, plants, fishes and all natural things in developing a religious, cultural and social tradition that is unique in all of the world; and

WHEREAS, Indian worship generally extends into every other facet of Indian life; and

WHEREAS, the federal constitutional doctrine of separation of church and state often conflicts with traditional Indian cultural and religious practices; and

WHEREAS, certain laws and regulations adopted by the federal government to protect the environment, wildlife, and fisheries conflict with certain historical and cultural practices of the American Indian.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas L. Judge, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby resolve that the State of Montana is unequivocally committed to the proposition that the Indians of this State should have the freedom to preserve and perpetuate the Indian way of life; and

THAT THE STATE OF MONTANA urges the federal government to re-evaluate and revise certain laws that have been enacted to protect fish and wildlife where those laws infringe upon the exercise of the American Indians' basic cultural and historical rights.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF MONTANA to be affixed. Done at the city of Helena, the capitol this 8th day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand one hundred and seventy-five.

/Signed/ Thomas L. Judge  
Governor of the State of Montana

ATTEST:  
Frank Murray, Secretary of State



CHIPPEWA-CREE TRIBE

No 3-77

ROCKY BOY , MONTANA

TO SUPPORT A JOINT RESOLUTION ~~AND BILL~~ ON PRESERVATION OF CULTURE AND BELIEFS  
OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, THRU THE MONTANA STATE LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, THIS CORPORATION IS A FEDERAL CHARTERED CORPORATION, AS DEFINED BY  
THE INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT OF JUNE 18, 1934, AND UNDER ITS CHARTER, CON-  
STITUTION AND BY-LAWS, AS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, HAS FULL  
POWER AND AUTHORITY TO MAKE AND PERFORM CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS OF EVERY  
DESCRIPTION, NOT INCONSISTENT WITH LAW OR THE PROVISIONS OF ITS CHARTER, AND,

WHEREAS, the Chippewa-Cree Tribal Business Committee of the Rocky Boy's Indian  
Reservation, has expressed their concern toward the preservation of their  
culture, customs, beliefs and traditions, by supporting an existing Bi-  
Lingual and Bi-Cultural Program thru the local School District, and,

WHEREAS, a Joint Resolution ~~and bill~~ is being submitted, by the Crow Historical  
Society, to the Montana State Legislation, expressing these very same concerns  
now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa-Cree Tribal Business Committee  
fully supports this action and strongly urges their District Representatives  
to support the passage of such a ~~bill~~ thru the Montana State Legislation.

*Resolution*

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, AS SECRETARY OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE OF THE CHIPPEWA  
CREE TRIBE, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED OF NINE  
MEMBERS, OF WHOM 9 MEMBERS CONSTITUTING A QUORUM, WERE PRESENT AT THE MEET-  
ING THEREOF, DULY AND REGULARLY CALLED, NOTICED, CONVENED AND HELD THIS 10TH  
DAY OF JANUARY, 1977, AND THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY ADOPTED AT  
SUCH A MEETING BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF 8 MEMBERS FOR AND 0 MEMBERS  
AGAINST, AND THAT THIS RESOLUTION HAS NOT BEEN RESCINDED OR AMENDED IN ANY WAY

  
CHAIRMAN, BUSINESS COMMITTEE

  
SECRETARY, BUSINESS COMMITTEE

NOTED \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

FORWARDED \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERINTENDENT, ROCKY BOY'S AGENCY  
BOX ELDER, MONTANA 59521

CHIPPEWA-CREE TRIBE

No. 3-77

ROCKY BOY , MONTANA

TO SUPPORT A JOINT RESOLUTION AND BILL ON PRESERVATION OF CULTURE AND BELIEFS  
OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, THRU THE MONTANA STATE LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, THIS CORPORATION IS A FEDERAL CHARTERED CORPORATION, AS DEFINED BY  
THE INDIAN REORGANIZATION ACT OF JUNE 18, 1934, AND UNDER ITS CHARTER, CON-  
STITUTION AND BY-LAWS, AS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, HAS FULL  
POWER AND AUTHORITY TO MAKE AND PERFORM CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS OF EVERY  
DESCRIPTION, NOT INCONSISTENT WITH LAW OR THE PROVISIONS OF ITS CHARTER, AND,

WHEREAS, the Chippewa-Cree Tribal Business Committee of the Rocky Boy's Indian  
Reservation, has expressed their concern toward the preservation of their  
culture, customs, beliefs and traditions, by supporting an existing bi-  
lingual and Bi-Cultural Program thru the local School District, and,

WHEREAS, a Joint Resolution and Bill is being submitted, by the Crow Historical  
Society, to the Montana State Legislation, expressing these very same concerns  
now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa-Cree Tribal Business Committee  
fully supports this action and strongly urges their District Representatives  
to support the passage of such a bill thru the Montana State Legislation.

Resolution

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, AS SECRETARY OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE OF THE CHIPPEWA  
CREE TRIBE, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED OF NINE  
MEMBERS, OF WHOM 9 MEMBERS CONSTITUTING A QUORUM, WERE PRESENT AT THE MEET-  
ING THEREOF, DULY AND REGULARLY CALLED, NOTICED, CONVENED AND HELD THIS 10TH  
DAY OF JANUARY, 1977, AND THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY ADOPTED AT  
SUCH A MEETING BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF 8 MEMBERS FOR AND 0 MEMBERS  
AGAINST, AND THAT THIS RESOLUTION HAS NOT BEEN RESCENDED OR AMENDED IN ANY WAY

  
CHAIRMAN, BUSINESS COMMITTEE

  
SECRETARY, BUSINESS COMMITTEE

NOTED \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

FORWARDED \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERINTENDENT, ROCKY BOY'S AGENCY  
BOX ELDER, MONTANA 59521

TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE OF THE 45th MONTANA STATE LEGISLATION:

While the rest of the country is celebrating 200 years of religious freedom, the Indian population still experiences suppression and harassment from some of the federal regulatory agencies relating to Indian religious practices.

I am presenting a self-explanatory position paper from the National Tribal - Chairmen's Association, the recognized Indian leaders throughout the country, and another of a resolution which we hope will get us the proper recognition from our state government and eventually the federal government on this matter.

Traditionally, the Indian lived intimately with and close to nature and has patterned his way of life after nature. His whole culture (traditions, philosophies, social dances, songs, legends and practices) originated from the natural world. Indians today, in continuing to follow the traditional cultures, utilize all forms of nature, as did their fathers, as symbols and as media, but do not directly worship those forms. The worship is rather through nature. He sees himself as a part of the natural world and is observant of all the natural forces and of all elements of the natural world with the highest degree of respect. This respect for and appreciation of nature makes the Indian a natural ecologist, environmentalist and a conservationist.

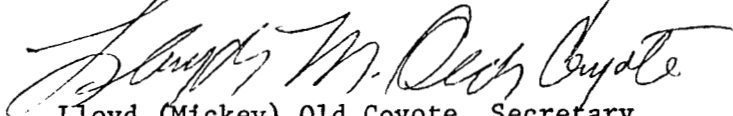
Indian culture has contributed a great deal to the dominant society (foods, drugs, medical practices, political philosophy and various other items), and I fail to see how giving us proper recognition of our cultural practices will in any way hinder the "greater society."

The people of Japan have accepted Western culture while maintaining and upholding their own. We American Indians can do as well. There are many good values (character building practices and social controls addressing individual development) within American cultures. The dominant society culture and traditional Indian cultures are complimentary in today's world, and they can become even more so in the future.

Members of any other ethnic group within the United States can return to their native country, their place of origin, and there get reacquainted with their traditional culture--not the American Indian. The native land--the place of origin--for the Indian is here. Once the culture is wiped out, that's the end. There is no place for us to go back to.

My purpose here is to seek support from the legislatures on this matter--to ask for their endorsement and acknowledge on this issue of the perpetuation of our Indian cultures through the proper channels of the State and federal systems so that we and our children can enjoy peace of mind in applying our cultural practices without fear of suppression and harassment.

Your acknowledgement and support on this request will be greatly appreciated.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lloyd (Mickey) Old Coyote". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lloyd (Mickey) Old Coyote, Secretary  
Crow Tribe Historical and Culture Commission  
LOC/jw

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date March 10, 1977 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 18 Time

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman	✓	
Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman	✓	
Senator George McCallum	✓	
Senator Bill Mathers	✓	
Senator William E. Murray	✓	
Senator Frank Dunkle	✓	
Senator Paul Boylan	✓	
Senator Larry Fasbender	✓	
Senator Bill Thomas	✓	
Senator Margaret Warden	✓	

Jennie Lind  
Secretary

Chet Blaylock  
Chairman

Motion: Senator Bill Mathers moved that House Joint Resolution  
No. 18 BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by  
unanimous vote. Senator Warden will carry the  
Resolution on the floor.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of  
committee report.)

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10, 1977

MR President,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 18,

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 18,

Third Reading,

DO PASS

BE CONCURRED IN

Chet Blaylock

Chairman.

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date March 10, 1977 HOUSE Bill No. 619 Time

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman	✓	
Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman	✓	
Senator George McCallum	✓	
Senator Bill Mathers	✓	
Senator William E. Murray	✓	
Senator Frank Dunkle	✓	
Senator Paul Boylan	✓	
Senator Larry Fasbender	✓	
Senator Bill Thomas	✓	
Senator Margaret Warden	✓	

Jennie Lind  
Secretary

Chet Blaylock  
Chairman

Motion: Senator Bill Mathers moved that House Bill No. 619

BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded, and carried by unanimous  
vote.

Sen. Mathers will carry the Bill on the floor.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 19 19 77

MR. President,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 619,

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 619,

Third Reading Bill,

DO PASS BE CONCURRED IN



SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date March 10, 1977 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUT.No. 37 Time 5:15

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman	✓	
Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman		✓
Senator George McCallum		✓
Senator Bill Mathers		✓
Senator William E. Murray	✓	
Senator Frank Dunkle	✓	
Senator Paul Boylan	✓	
Senator Larry Fasbender	✓	
Senator Bill Thomas		✓
Senator Margaret Warden	✓	

Jennie Lind  
Secretary

Chet Blaylock  
Chairman

Motion: Senator Larry Fasbender moved that House Joint Resolution  
No. 37, BE NOT CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by  
majority vote, with Senators Smith, Mathers, McCallum and  
Thomas voting "no".

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10 1977

MR. President,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 37,

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 37,

Third Reading,

~~DO PASS~~

BE NOT CONCURRED IN