HLS 97-1369 **ORIGINAL**

Regular Session, 1997

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SMITH

INDIAN AFFAIRS: Urges and requests the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Louisiana congressional delegation to provide for formal recognition of the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, as an Indian tribe

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the United States government, and particularly the
3	Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs of the United States Department of
4	the Interior and the members of the Louisiana congressional delegation,
5	to take appropriate action to formally recognize the Four Winds Tribe,
6	Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, as an Indian tribe.
7	WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced many Indians
8	living east of the Mississippi River to sell their land and move to less fertile
9	lands on a Western reservation, and the five tribes most affected were the
10	Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, Seminole, and Cherokee; and
11	WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused Southern Indians
12	to embark on what came to be known as "The Trail of Tears" from 1830 to
13	1842; and
14	WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small
15	groups of the five tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into
16	Louisiana and settled near the central and western part of Louisiana in
17	Rapides, Vernon, and Natchitoches Parishes, much of what was known at one
18	time as "No Man's Land"; and

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1	WHEREAS, as the following are recognition issues: Raymond v.
2	Raymond, Ind.t 1897, 83F 721, 28ecA39.; Pape v. United States ccAWash
3	1927, 19F 2nd 219.; 25-184 Halbert v. United States, Wash 1931; Vezina v.
4	United States, Minn 1917; all of which confirm and strengthen the following:
5	one born of a white father and Indian mother, and is a recognized member of
6	the tribe of Indians to which his mother belongs, is an Indian, United States
7	v. Higgins, Mont 1900; and
8	WHEREAS, today there exists the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana
9	Cherokee Confederacy, a domestic nonprofit corporation, registered with the
10	secretary of state of Louisiana; and
11	WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state of Louisiana to recognize the
12	Indian tribes within the borders of the state and to support their aspirations for
13	the preservation of their cultural heritage and the improvement of their
14	economic conditions, and to assist them in their just rights.
15	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana
16	formally recognizes the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy.
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does
18	hereby urge and request the government of the United States of America, and
19	particularly the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs of the United States
20	Department of the Interior and the members of the Louisiana congressional
21	delegation, to take such steps as are necessary to effect in the near future
22	formal recognition of the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee
23	Confederacy, and to acknowledge that the rights of the Four Winds Tribe,
24	Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, are no less than that of other Indian tribes
25	in the United States.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be
27	transmitted to the president of the United States, the presiding officers of the
28	Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States,

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and the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of

2 the Interior.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

John Smith HCR No. 7

Provides that the Legislature of Louisiana formally recognizes the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy.

Requests the U.S. government, and particularly the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior and the members of the Louisiana congressional delegation, to take steps to formally recognize the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy.