

80th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2019 Regular Session

Senate Concurrent Resolution 12

Sponsored by Senator GIROD

March 27, 2019 08:16 am

Testimony presented by Allen Nelson (Klamath, Modoc Tribal Nation)

Senate Concurrent Resolution 12 (SCR12)

Salem, Oregon Capitol Building room HR B

Intro:

I want to thank Senator Girod and this committee for your work and effort on SCR 12.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of my Modoc ancestors and the generations that have come after.

My Indian name is Meyas, I'm enrolled member of the Klamath, Modoc, Yahooskin and Paiute Nation. My English name is Allen Nelson

I stand before you as a Modoc war descendant. Scarfaced Charley who fought in the war is my great, great, great, great grandfather. Scarfaced Charley (Modoc leader) fought along the side of Keintpoos (Modoc leader) aka Captain Jack. They relied upon each other's abilities to lead their people. Scarfaced Charley was a fierce leader whose mission was to protect the Modoc people. The stories tell of his actions. In the aftermath Scarfaced Charley became to be respected by the war department for his deeds and actions. In the aftermath he would not relinquish his right to be a free man, a Modoc man and a family man.

I fully support SCR 12.

I want to thank Senator Girod for his compassion and understanding of the history of the Modoc people during that time period and the true intent of all those that were involved in this war.

This Senate commemoration resolution (SCR 12) is important, because it acknowledges our Modoc leaders and their families. Like it was stated by my colleague, the war was not only against men but also families. It is also important

because it acknowledges the regret and actions that was taken against the Modoc leaders.

This commemoration resolution will bring this historical event into the mainstream so that all will understand the nobility and resilience of the Modoc people who suffered and sacrificed their lives so that we can be here today. They were fighting to protect their families and their homeland just like anyone of us would do under those circumstances.

This is a step forward in the healing process for the spirit of our ancestors, the Modoc families, descendants and to all the people involved who have suffered and sacrificed their lives during that time.

Thank you again Senator Girod, for your effort and vision for creating SCR 12. Today we can look at this resolution as the first step in reconciling with our communities in the region and the nation. I will close with this: “The Spirit of our Modoc ancestors will live on and all that was done was not in vain but for the Modoc people to live on.” Thank you, Allen Nelson (Meyas)