

Enrolled
Senate Concurrent Resolution 31

Sponsored by Senators ROBLAN, HANSELL, Representative MCKEOWN; Senator WAGNER, Representatives GORSEK, HERNANDEZ, MEEK, REARDON, SANCHEZ

Whereas the State of Oregon has well-established government-to-government relationships with nine federally recognized tribal governments (“Oregon tribes”), all of which are headquartered within the state’s boundaries; and

Whereas on August 13, 1954, the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act and the Klamath Termination Act, which terminated federal recognition of more than 60 tribes and bands of indigenous peoples, became law; and

Whereas the termination of Oregon tribes proved to be an unmitigated disaster, resulting in Native American deprivation, cultural losses, poverty, health problems and movement of many Indian people away from their communities; and

Whereas the termination of Oregon tribes substantially contributed to intergenerational economic, cultural, social and environmental problems for the state and its residents; and

Whereas the State of Oregon honors and acknowledges the bravery and courage of tribal members who advocated for recognition of their terminated tribes; and

Whereas the State of Oregon honors and acknowledges the just and rightful Acts restoring federal recognition to the following tribes and bands of Indians: the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, the Klamath Tribes and the Coquille Indian Tribe; and

Whereas the termination era represents a long-repudiated dark period in history, and the State of Oregon must vigilantly ensure that this mistake will never be repeated; and

Whereas 2019 represents the 65th anniversary of the termination Acts; and

Whereas tribal termination and its impacts are not part of the curriculum of most Oregon schools and will not be until the promise of Senate Bill 13 (2017) is fulfilled, but Oregonians young and old should know about this tragic chapter of our history; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, express our support for the federal recognition, self-determination and economic independence of all nine Oregon tribes; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our opposition to any involuntary efforts to terminate or otherwise amend federal recognition laws for any Oregon tribe.

Adopted by Senate April 30, 2019

Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House May 17, 2019

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House