HLS 12RS-2073 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2012

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 91

BY REPRESENTATIVE DIXON

INDIAN AFFAIRS: Recognizes the La. Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee as an Indian tribe of La.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of
3	Webber Falls, Oklahoma, as an Indian tribe in Louisiana.
4	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of
5	Webber Falls, Oklahoma, has a tribal domicile in Allen Parish, Louisiana; and
6	WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced many Indians living east of the
7	Mississippi River to sell their land and move to less fertile lands on a Western reservation
8	that would not be taken from them; and
9	WHEREAS, the five tribes most affected by the Indian Removal Act of 1830 through
10	the loss of lives, homes, and land were the Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, Seminole, and
11	Cherokee; and
12	WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused Indians living in the South to
13	embark on what became known as the "Trail of Tears" from 1830 to 1842; and
14	WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small groups of
15	the five tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into Louisiana and settled near the
16	central and western part of Louisiana in the present-day parishes of Rapides, Vernon,
17	Natchitoches, and Calcasieu, which was referred to as "No Man's Land" or "Rio Hondo"; and
18	WHEREAS, descendants from these tribes exist today as the Louisiana Precinct of
19	the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the policy of the state of Louisiana provides for recognition of Indian tribes within its borders, to support their tribal aspirations, to preserve their cultural heritage and improve their economic condition, and to assist them in the achievement of their just rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that the state of
Louisiana formally recognizes the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee
Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, as an Indian tribe of the state.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States and the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs are hereby memorialized, requested, and urged to take such steps as are necessary to effect the formal recognition of the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, as an Indian tribe, and to acknowledge that the rights of the Louisiana Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, are no less than those of other Indian tribes in the United States, and, accordingly, to take such executive or congressional action as may be appropriate.

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, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Dixon HCR No. 91

Recognizes the La. Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, as an Indian tribe.

Memorializes congress to take necessary steps to effect formal recognition of the La. Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, as an Indian tribe, and to acknowledge that the rights of the La. Precinct of the Southern Band of the Cherokee Nation of Webber Falls, Oklahoma, are no less than other Indian tribes in the U.S. as an Indian tribe.