

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 SENATE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 72

By: Laughlin of the Senate

and

5 Denney of the House  
6

7  
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution offering an apology to Native  
10 Peoples on behalf of the State of Oklahoma;  
11 supporting a U.S. Congressional Apology to Native  
12 Americans; and directing distribution.

13 WHEREAS, United States policies towards Native Americans and  
14 Native Peoples' governments included policies of massacres, economic  
15 deprivation, the forcible dissolution of Native American families  
16 and the disintegration of tribal governance systems; and

17 WHEREAS, the impact of these U.S. policies is the source of the  
18 many undue social and economic burdens that tribes face today and  
19 the United States' failure to uphold its treaties and moral  
20 obligations to tribes undermines tribal governance; and

21 WHEREAS, U.S. policies have contributed to a lack of awareness  
22 among Americans about the distinct role of Native Americans and  
23 their tribal governments in this country both historically and  
24 today; and

1       WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed an apology resolution  
2 enumerating the various wrongdoings of the U.S. government in  
3 relation to the Native Hawaiians and Kingdom of Hawaii in 1993, and  
4 the Canadian government likewise apologized to its First Peoples in  
5 1998; and

6       WHEREAS, U.S. Congressmen Dan Boren and Tom Cole have initiated  
7 a nonpartisan effort to pass joint congressional resolution H.J.  
8 Res. No. 68, the purpose of which is to "acknowledge a long history  
9 of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United  
10 States Government regarding Indian tribes and offer an apology to  
11 all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States".

12       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
13 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
14 CONCURRING THEREIN:

15       THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature offers an apology to Native  
16 Peoples on behalf of the State of Oklahoma.

17       THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature supports the passage by the  
18 United States Congress of H.J. Res. No. 68 and calls on tribal  
19 leaders to voice support for its passage as a first step towards  
20 recognizing wrongdoings and the need for the United States to  
21 fulfill its trust obligations and government-to-government  
22 relationship with tribes.

23       THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma  
24 Congressional Delegation, and to President George Tiger of United

1 Indian Nations of Oklahoma for distribution to the 39 Indian Nations  
2 in the State of Oklahoma.

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