

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from the State of Minnesota.

RESOLUTION No. 12—H. F. No. 1038

A concurrent resolution memorializing the President of the United States and Congress to enact legislation to provide payment of funds to Mahnomen County, Minnesota, by reason of federal ownership of certain lands with said county resulting in removal thereof from tax lists.

WHEREAS in 1940, the United States of America purchased in trust for the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe of Minnesota, the so-called Schermerhorn Ranch consisting of 8,166.07 acres, situated in the Towns of Clover, Beaulieu and La Gard in Mahnomen County, Minnesota, a highly developed farm unit, and that as a result of such acquisition said lands were taken off the tax rolls and became non-taxable with an estimated real estate tax loss to the County of \$23,952.50 for the years 1940 to 1947, inclusive; that in addition thereto large sums were lost annually on account of personal property taxes paid during private ownership but wholly discontinued during Federal ownership; and,

WHEREAS, said lands were acquired for use to provide encouragement and instructions to Indians in agriculture and also to provide employment for Indians; and,

WHEREAS, such use was discontinued in 1947 and said lands rented to individuals to be operated as any other farm; and,

WHEREAS, it appears to be the desire of the Council and officers of said Tribe that said farm be sold and returned to private ownership; and,

WHEREAS, the United States of America now owns a total of 37,064.59 acres in the County of Mahnomen, Minnesota, either acquired by purchase between the years 1935 to 1940

or held in trust for Indians, said total including the acreage of the Schermerhorn Ranch above mentioned, with the result that there has been a total estimated tax loss to said county of \$86,437.66 by reason of such acquisition and holding, for the five year period from 1943 to 1947, inclusive; and,

WHEREAS, the financial burden to the State of Minnesota and county within which said lands are located is becoming increasingly serious; and,

WHEREAS, the financial responsibility for the acquisition of said lands for the educational benefits to Indians in agriculture or otherwise, is rightly and justly a federal problem;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota, the Senate concurring herein, that recognition be given this problem by the President and the Congress of the United States to the end that appropriate legislation be enacted at the present session to provide for payment by the federal government to the State of Minnesota and Mahnomen County in lieu of taxes on such lands, and further that the lands involved be returned to the tax rolls as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, and to each member of Congress from the State of Minnesota.

RESOLUTION No. 13—H. F. No. 1565

A concurrent resolution memorializing congress to establish a national cemetery at Birch Coulee Battlefield in Renville County, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on September 2nd and 3rd, 1862, there was fought at Birch Coulee in Renville County a battle with the Indians of great historic importance, at which soldiers and pioneer citizens, heroically fighting against overwhelming odds, laid down their lives; and,

WHEREAS, said battlefield has been set apart and designated as a state park and cemetery of the State of Minnesota by Laws 1929, Chapter 75; and,