

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 65

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the distribution of  
6 compensatory funds to Tlingit and  
7 Haida Indians.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 WHEREAS the United States Court of Claims, on October 7, 1959,  
10 found that the Tlingit and Haida Indians should be compensated for  
11 approximately 20 million acres of land taken by the United States  
12 in Southeastern Alaska; and

13 WHEREAS the Tlingit-Haida Jurisdictional Act, 49 Stat. 388  
14 (1935), under which the claim for compensation was made, provides  
15 that compensatory funds may be distributed on a community basis  
16 only; and

17 WHEREAS this provision regarding the distribution of funds  
18 was enacted at a time when the Tlingit and Haida Indians, as well  
19 as other native groups in Alaska, lived in their own village areas  
20 and engaged in the traditional occupations of hunting, trapping,  
21 and fishing; and

22 WHEREAS the way of life of the Tlingit and Haida Indians has  
23 drastically changed in the intervening period with the result that  
24 many now live in the predominantly non-native communities of  
25 Alaska and in the other states of the nation and are engaged in  
26 professional, scientific, and business occupations; and

27 WHEREAS S. 2571, sponsored by Senator Ernest Gruening, and  
28 H.R. 10175, sponsored by Representative Ralph J. Rivers, if enacted,  
29 would amend the Tlingit-Haida Jurisdictional Act in order to make

1 it a more equitable and realistic vehicle for the distribution of  
2 compensatory funds by permitting per-capita distribution of a  
3 portion of the funds to fund beneficiaries and by prescribing the  
4 organization for an official Central Council of the Tlingit and  
5 Haida Indians which would be responsible for the administration  
6 of the compensatory funds;

7 BE IT RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States is  
8 respectfully urged to take favorable action on S. 2571 and H.R.  
9 10175; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress is urged to consider these  
11 bills as soon as possible because it is understood that the United  
12 States Court of Claims will soon determine the amount of compen-  
13 sation to be awarded; and be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to  
15 the Honorable Carl Hayden, President pro tempore of the Senate;  
16 the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Repre-  
17 sentatives; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman, Senate  
18 Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable Wayne N.  
19 Aspinall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee;  
20 the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the  
21 Honorable Philleo Nash, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and the  
22 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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