

Senate Joint Memorial 6

Sponsored by Senators BROWN, FERRIOLI, WESTLUND; Senators ATKINSON, JOHNSON, METSGER, MONNES ANDERSON, NELSON, SHIELDS, Representatives BARKER, BOONE, BURLEY, BUTLER, DALLUM, DINGFELDER, HANSEN, JENSON, G SMITH, P SMITH, TOMEI, WHISNANT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to fund study of National 1855 Treaty Trail so that National Park Service may designate trail as national historic trail for sesquicentennial of 1855 treaties.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas in 1855 Governor Isaac Stevens of the Washington Territory and Joel Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Oregon Territory, conducted a vigorous campaign to make treaties with all of the Indian tribes of northeastern Oregon, Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana; and

Whereas Governor Stevens and Superintendent Palmer and numerous Indian leaders met and negotiated 11 treaties in 1855, starting in Seattle, heading south to the Columbia River, proceeding upriver to The Dalles, and ending at Judith River, Montana; and

Whereas these treaties included treaties with the Tribes of Middle Oregon (confirming tribes' rights to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation), the Walla Walla and others (confirming tribes' rights to the Umatilla Indian Reservation) and the Nez Perce; and

Whereas the 11 treaties made on the 1855 Treaty Trail remain in force, preserving those rights of the original peoples of the territories that were not expressly surrendered; and

Whereas national historic trail designation for the 1855 Treaty Trail is most fitting because the treaties form the basis for the good relations now enjoyed between the State of Oregon and both the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the basis for the title to land throughout northeastern Oregon, as well as most of the State of Washington and much of the States of Idaho and Montana; and

Whereas the 1855 Treaty Trail is especially traceable in Oregon, following the Columbia River and including the site of the Treaty of Middle Oregon at The Dalles, a place well known to the Indians of the region; and

Whereas the sesquicentennial of the 1855 treaties has arrived, coinciding with the bicentennial of the arrival of Lewis and Clark in the Oregon Country and their transit of the Columbia River and sighting of the great Pacific Ocean; and

Whereas the sesquicentennial will be celebrated as part of the commemoration planned by the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial in Oregon and several Oregon communities in 2005; now, therefore,

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

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

SJM 6

1 (1) The Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to fund a study of a National 1855
2 Treaty Trail in the fiscal year 2005 budget for the National Park Service and to direct the National
3 Park Service to proceed expeditiously with the study.

4 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delega-
5 tion.

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