
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1996 Regular Session

By Senators Wojahn, Winsley, Rasmussen, Heavey, Fraser, Owen and Goings

Read first time 01/19/96. Referred to Committee on Ecology & Parks.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE HONORABLE BRUCE
5 BABBITT, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, AND TO THE HONORABLE FEDERICO PEÑA,
6 SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION:

7 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
9 represent and petition as follows:

10 WHEREAS, Within the last several months numerous billboards have
11 been constructed in areas that, if not held in trust by the United
12 States Department of Interior for the benefit of Indian Tribes and
13 members of those Tribes, would violate the Federal Highway
14 Beautification Act and the Washington State Scenic Vistas Act; and

15 WHEREAS, The billboards obstruct scenic vistas and otherwise
16 distract from the State of Washington's beauty; and

17 WHEREAS, The obstructions negatively impact tourism that is
18 important to the economies of Tribes and the State of Washington at
19 large; and

1 WHEREAS, The billboards are not in scale with any surrounding
2 structures and may diminish safety on the Interstate and Scenic and
3 Recreational Highway Systems; and

4 WHEREAS, The proliferation of billboards on Indian Trust Lands in
5 the State of Washington should end immediately;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the Bureau
7 of Indian Affairs deny applications for new trust lands where the
8 applicant's intended use would violate the Federal Highway
9 Beautification Act or the Washington State Scenic Vistas Act if the
10 land were not held in trust for the benefit of the Tribe or a tribal
11 member; and

12 YOUR MEMORIALISTS FURTHER PRAY, That the Congress amend the Federal
13 Highway Beautification Act to explicitly give authority for its
14 enforcement on Indian lands.

15 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
16 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
17 United States, the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior,
18 the Honorable Federico Pe/a, Secretary of Transportation, the President
19 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
21 Washington.

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