

2 SSCR 8422 - S AMD - 027

3 By Senators T. Sheldon and Swecker

4 ADOPTED 2/9/00

5 Strike everything and insert the following:

6 "WHEREAS, The members of the Washington state legislature recognize  
7 there are twenty-eight federally recognized Indian tribes located  
8 within the boundaries of Washington state with a combined population of  
9 approximately ninety-one thousand members occupying over three and a  
10 quarter million acres of land; and

11 WHEREAS, Those twenty-eight tribes are operating governments with  
12 responsibilities to their citizens and their lands like those of the  
13 state to its territory and citizens; and

14 WHEREAS, The relationship on an intergovernmental basis between the  
15 Washington state legislature and these Indian tribes has seen only a  
16 very limited level of development; and

17 WHEREAS, Because of these limitations, there is a need to inform  
18 and educate members of the legislature and their staff on the status  
19 and operations of tribal governments and to educate and inform tribal  
20 elected officials and their staff on the operations of the legislature;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of  
22 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That a joint  
23 select committee on legislative/tribal relations be established to  
24 review, study, and recommend how the legislature and tribes may develop  
25 more effective relationships and arrange for intergovernmental  
26 mechanisms in order to be able to work together on common interests and  
27 problems, such as court jurisdiction, human services, gaming, tax and  
28 revenue, historic preservation, and environmental issues; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the efforts of the committee shall  
30 include a study of how other state legislatures and tribal governments  
31 handle their intergovernmental relationships and recommend methods of  
32 addressing issues that are significant in the area of state/tribal  
33 relations and that the committee may hold hearings and seek out the  
34 expertise of state and tribal agencies to understand and make  
35 recommendations on issues the committee may agree to address; and

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall consist of twelve  
37 members, to be comprised of eight state legislators and four tribal

1 elected officials. Four members shall be from the Senate, two from  
2 each caucus, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; four  
3 members from the House of Representatives, two from each caucus, to be  
4 appointed by the Co-Speakers of the House of Representatives; and four  
5 elected officials from among the twenty-eight federally recognized  
6 tribes, who shall be representative of the demographic, geographic, and  
7 cultural differences among the tribes, as well as other relevant  
8 variables, to be appointed by the Chair of the Association of  
9 Washington Tribes. An ad hoc member may be designated by the Governor  
10 to be a representative of the Governor and the executive branch; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall be co-chaired by  
12 a legislative member and a tribal member. The members of the  
13 legislature appointed to the committee shall select their co-chair and  
14 the tribal members of the committee shall select their co-chair, the  
15 expenses of the committee shall be paid by the legislature under  
16 chapter 44.04 RCW, staff support for the committee shall be provided by  
17 the senate committee services and house of representatives office of  
18 program research and the Northwest Indian applied research institute  
19 located at The Evergreen State College, and the committee may also call  
20 upon any of the state agencies and tribal governments to assist in  
21 research and provide information; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall present its report  
23 and recommendations to the legislature not later than December 1, 2000;  
24 and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall terminate on  
26 December 15, 2000."

--- END ---