

MEMORIAL  
OF  
THE LEGISLATURE OF OREGON,

ASKING

*The passage of an act to extinguish the title to the Umatilla Indian reservation.*

JANUARY 25, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

*To the honorable the Congress of the United States :*

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the State of Oregon, represent that the reservation occupied by the Umatilla Indians contains about five hundred thousand acres, and is held by only five hundred Indians; that the grass is eaten out, the game destroyed, and is destitute of fisheries, so that the Indians go off to hunt, fish, and graze, while they give little or no attention to the cultivation of the soil, although a large proportion of the tract is admirably adapted to agricultural pursuits, being of the very best lands along the slope of the Blue Mountains. Your memorialists further represent that settlements have crowded along the boundary of the reservation upon three sides; that owing to the peculiarities of the country and shape of the county of Umatilla, the county-seat is necessarily upon the borders of the reservation; it is therefore a matter of great inconvenience to the present settlers to have so large a tract of land in their midst held as a reservation, which, while it is of little value to the Indians, would be settled and made productive of great agricultural wealth. Your memorialists therefore respectfully urge upon your honorable body the propriety of extinguishing the Indian title to the said reservation, and throwing it open to settlement. Your memorialists are of the opinion that if the Umatilla Indians were removed to the Nez Percé reservation, their best interests would be subserved; being largely intermarried with those Indians, and, having much intercourse, would naturally and readily assimilate to their laws and customs, and at the same time be accessible to extensive grazing-lands supplied with game and fish. Your memorialists therefore urge upon your honorable body that a law may be passed at an early period for the extinguishment of the Indian title to the Umatilla reservation, and for preparing the same for white settlement.

Adopted in the senate October 1, 1874.

R. B. COCHRAN,  
*President of the Senate.*

Concurred in by the house October 2, 1874.

JOHN C. DRAIN,  
*Speaker of the House.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

STATE OF OREGON, SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
*Salem, December 30, 1874.*

I, S. F. Chadwick, secretary of the State of Oregon, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the great seal of the State of Oregon. That the foregoing copy of a memorial, entitled Senate joint memorial No. 2, has been by me compared with the original memorial entitled Senate joint memorial No. 2, on file in this office, and said copy is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of the said original memorial.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Oregon, the day and year above written.

[SEAL.]

S. F. CHADWICK,  
*Secretary of the State of Oregon.*