

REFERENCE TITLE: recognition of Indian tribes

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-eighth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2008

HCR 2028

Introduced by

Representatives Chabin, Ableser, Bradley, Gallardo, Konopnicki, Lopez, Pancrazi, Prezelski, Sinema, Tom, Senators Arzberger, Bee, Blendu, Hale, Landrum Taylor, Miranda, O'Halleran, Rios: Representatives Hershberger, Lopes, McLain, Schapira, Stump, Weiers J, Senators Aboud, Aguirre, Allen, Pesquiera, Soltero, Verschoor

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES IN ARIZONA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, Arizona is home to twenty-two federally recognized American
2 Indian tribes who have resided in Arizona since before the formation of the
3 United States and the entry of the State of Arizona into the union; and

4 Whereas, the reserved land of these tribes comprises approximately
5 twenty-eight per cent of Arizona's land base and, along with other American
6 Indians, Arizona tribal members comprise approximately five per cent of
7 Arizona's population; and

8 Whereas, tribal communities throughout Arizona contribute unique and
9 significant cultural, historical and economic resources for all state
10 residents; and

11 Whereas, the State of Arizona recognizes and supports the rights of
12 these twenty-two tribal governments to exercise sovereign authority over
13 their members and their territory; and

14 Whereas, these tribal members are citizens of Arizona with all of the
15 rights and privileges afforded by Arizona to its citizens; and

16 Whereas, American Indian tribes are often overlooked in the complex
17 system of federalism, leaving them unintentionally without services or
18 funding or equal access to services and funding; and

19 Whereas, state legislatures are entering a new period of state
20 federalism that stresses state recognition of its American Indian citizens
21 and recognizes the responsibilities of states to tribes in the areas of the
22 state's legitimate authority; and

23 Whereas, the legislature needs to ensure that state services and
24 resources are available to all eligible state citizens residing in Arizona
25 tribal communities to the same extent as such services are available to all
26 other eligible states citizens; and

27 Whereas, certain state statutes and programs, including loan programs,
28 fail to include tribal entities and thereby fail to maximize the benefit of
29 the existing network of economic development opportunities in Indian
30 communities across the state; and

31 Whereas, the effort expended by state boards and commissions intended
32 to help boost the Arizona economy will be enhanced by Indian representation;
33 and

34 Whereas, Arizona's tribes are both entitled to and deserving of a more
35 vigorous effort on the part of the state to foster intergovernmental
36 cooperation and appropriate state relationships with American Indian tribes
37 in the state; and

38 Whereas, a spirit of cooperation should guide the continuing
39 government-to-government relationships between the state of Arizona and the
40 tribes that call Arizona home; and

41 Whereas, meaningful and timely consultation with the Arizona's tribal
42 leaders will facilitate better understanding and informed decision making
43 between the Arizona's tribes and this state.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the
3 Senate concurring:

4 1. That the Members of the Legislature recognize American Indians as
5 full citizens of the State of Arizona and accept the duties and obligations
6 of the Legislature on behalf of those citizens.

7 2. That the Members of the Legislature encourage input from
8 appropriate appointed tribal officials regarding any legislative action or
9 policy that may affect a tribal community or its members.

10 3. That the Members of the Legislature, to the fullest extent
11 possible, will attempt to integrate the input generated from tribal
12 consultation into the decision making process to achieve mutually acceptable
13 solutions.

14 4. That the Members of the Legislature will work to ensure that state
15 services and resources are available to all American Indian tribal community
16 members to the same extent as those services and resources are available to
17 all other eligible state citizens.

18 5. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
19 of this Resolution to each tribal nation located in the State of Arizona.