SLS 19RS-213 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATOR LONG

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INDIAN AFFAIRS. Recognizes the Apalachee Indians' Talimali Band as a tribe in the state of Louisiana.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1 2 To recognize the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana as an Indian tribe of 3 the state and to urge and request the federal government to provide for formal re-recognition or recognition of the tribe. 4 5 WHEREAS, in the early sixteenth century, the Apalachee Indians comprised one of the largest and most powerful Native American chiefdoms whose traditional lands were 6 7 situated between what are today known as the Aucilla and Ochlockonee Rivers on the 8 modern Florida panhandle; and 9 WHEREAS, the various colonial governments of Louisiana always regarded the 10 Apalachee Indians as a distinct tribal entity, even when remnants of the tribe—the Talimali 11 Band—fled westward from their traditional homelands in 1704 to seek protection from the French in Mobile, Alabama; and 12 13 WHEREAS, the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana have always 14 maintained close ties to the state after moving to the Red River in 1763, living first in the vicinity of Boyce, Louisiana, and later moving to the Bayou Cypre and Sang Pour Sang area 15 16 (now known as Emmanuel), located south of Natchitoches where many tribal members reside even today; and 17

WHEREAS, it is noted that the Apalachee Indians have maintained much of their

traditional culture that dictates that decisions of the tribe be made by the Chief Councilman and Councilmen; this custom of leader and council has been maintained among the Apalachee Indians; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the Apalachee Indians incorporated themselves into the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana, a legal corporation formed under the laws of the state of Louisiana and Rapides Parish; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, provides for procedures for establishing that an Indian group exists as a federally re-recognized or recognized Indian tribe; and

WHEREAS, re-recognition or recognition by the United States Department of the Interior also means that a tribe is entitled to immunities and privileges available to other federally re-recognized or recognized Indian tribes by virtue of their government-to-government relationship with the United States, as well as the responsibilities, powers, limitations, and obligations of such tribes; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana supports the tribal aspirations of Indian tribes within its borders and seeks to preserve their cultural heritage, to improve their economic condition, and to assist them in the achievement of their just rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that the state of Louisiana formally recognizes the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana as an Indian tribe of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request appropriate federal officials to do whatever is necessary to effectuate the formal re-recognition or recognition of the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana acknowledging that the rights of the Apalachee Indians are not less than the rights of other tribes in the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the governor of the state of Louisiana, the president of the United States, the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, the assistant secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior, and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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ORIGINAL
SCR NO. 9

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

Long

SCR 9 Original

Recognizes the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana (also known as the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana) as an Indian tribe of the state.

Further, urges and requests appropriate federal officials to take necessary action to effectuate formal federal re-recognition or recognition of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana.