

Regular Session, 1997

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 137 (Duplicate of Senate
Concurrent Resolution No. 32)

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SMITH AND SENATOR CAIN AND
COAUTHORED BY REPRESENTATIVES HILL AND ILES

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, as an
Indian tribe.

WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced many Indians
living east of the Mississippi River to sell their land and move to less fertile
lands on a Western reservation; and

WHEREAS, the five tribes most affected by the Indian Removal Act
of 1830 were the Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, Seminole, and Cherokee; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused Southern Indians
to embark on what came to be known as "The Trail of Tears" from 1830 until
1842; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small
groups of the five tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into
Louisiana and settled near the central and western part of Louisiana in
Rapides, Vernon, and Natchitoches Parishes, much of what was known at one
time as "No Man's Land"; and

WHEREAS, today there exists the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana
Cherokee Confederacy, a domestic nonprofit corporation, registered with the
secretary of state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state of Louisiana to recognize the Indian tribes within the borders of the state, to support their aspirations for the preservation of their cultural heritage and the improvement of their economic conditions, and to assist them in their just rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana formally recognizes the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, will agree in writing with the governor of the state of Louisiana not to apply in the next ninety-nine years for any gaming license, compact, or permit for any reservation within Louisiana prior to the Resolution being effective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event it is not agreed to by the tribe, the Resolution is hereby null and void.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE