

Commissioner Ducheneaux I believe was the originator of Resolution No. 2 and I believe what he states in his telegram will shed better understanding on Resolution No 2.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you read his telegram?

Miss NECONI. Yes. [Reading:]

Re Senate 1843 the Cheyenne River Tribe goes on record favoring the enactment of Senate Bill 1843 Title I rights of Indians. Definitions (3) of Section 101 states 'Indian Court' means any tribal court or court of Indian offense that as written in Title II Model Code governing courts of Indian Offense Section 201 applies only to the Court of Indian Offense as set out in (3) of Section 101 with this understanding we favor the enactment of Senate Bill Number 1843.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, and the statement will be made a part of the record when it is received.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION No. 2.

AMERICAN INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS BILL—S. 1843

Whereas the National Congress of American Indians, in Executive Council, representing 87 American Indian Tribes, assembled at a duly called and convened session, at the Willard Hotel, on March 4-5, 1968, in Washington, D.C., goes on record as supporting S. 1843, with the understanding that the wording of the definitions of subsection (3) of Section 101, and as written and stated in Section 201, apply only to the Court of Indian Offense: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved on this 5th day of March, 1968, That the Executive Council of the National Congress of American Indians goes on record as being in support of S. 1843 with the above understanding.

Rev. WENDELL CHINO,

President, National Congress of American Indians.

Mr. NORMAN HOLLOW,

Chairman, Resolutions Committee, NCAI.

Dated: March 4-5, 1968.

Place: Washington, D.C.

(Statement above referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

I am John Belindo, Kiowa-Navajo, and Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians. The National Congress of American Indians is the only private national organization of the Indian people themselves where the voting and programing is limited to legally recognized Indians and Indian tribes. We are responsible for speaking up for the Indian people on a national scale. Close to 87 Indian tribes including Alaska native villages are represented in our organization. We are in close contact with these various tribes and Alaska Native groups which represents a major cross-section of the Native population of our nation. I am honored to appear here today before this Committee to make a statement indicating the position of the National Congress of American Indians with respect to the Senate approved Bill S. 1843 and related legislative proposals.

Our membership requirements entitle us to assert that we represent a point of view which is veritably Indian. The size and diversity of our membership drawn from the larger Indian Community also entitles us to feel confident that we represent the collective sentiment of that Community more so than any other organization purporting to serve the same interests. It also commits us to serve the collective interests of our membership and pursue policies which are oriented to answer the wants of the majority on those occasions where such wants may be at cross purposes with the desire of individual segments within the membership. We are governed by democratic parliamentary procedure as much as the Honorable body to which this statement is addressed.

We of NCAI have had considerable history of concern with the precursor conditions which have led up to and prompted the items of legislation which is the