

I wanted to ask Mr. Garry now who, as I introduced him, is the chairman of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, to add his comments.

Mr. Garry.

Mr. GARRY. Thank you, Robert.

Senator McGOVERN. Mr. Garry.

Mr. GARRY. I think everything here has been just about said, and I have very little more to add.

I do want to confirm what Mr. Dellwo has set forth is the position of the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council, of which I am chairman, in opposition to section 7 of the Yakima Act.

I have a relative who had to enroll on the Kalispel, and her husband is a Yakima. But by reason of the fact that they could not inherit anything on the Yakima, she had the children enrolled on the Kalispel.

I do feel that something should be done to sort of straighten this around so that all tribes would be on an equal footing, reciprocity legislation or some such thing as that, but at least to maybe make it possible for the tribes, members of other tribes, to inherit within the Yakima Reservation.

This would not only solidify the nation but at least they would have equal rights. That is about all I have to say at this time.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you, Mr. Garry.

Mr. DELLWO. I would like to clarify one thing about the residence requirement for enrollment. The tribes I am familiar with have no residence requirements. For example, if you have a husband and a wife, one Yakima and one Coeur d'Alene, living on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation, the parents can pick which tribe their children are enrolled with. They can enroll their children on the Yakima Reservation even though they reside in the Coeur d'Alene area.

Senator McGOVERN. Providing one parent or the other has membership?

Mr. DELLWO. Yes. The only requirement is that one parent or the other have membership, and you frequently find these families where half are one tribe and half are of the other tribe.

Senator McGOVERN. But once they make that decision then they are bound by this legislation.

Mr. DELLWO. Yes.

Senator McGOVERN. If they choose other than the Yakima Tribe.

Mr. DELLWO. Yes; and you will run into many of these situations. For example, on the Kalispel Tribe they did not have assets for a number of years. They might register all of their children on the adjacent tribes, the Yakima or the Spokane. You run into families such as the Campbell family on the Kalispel where all of the children are registered on the Spokane, and it makes no difference in inheritance. But if they are all registered as Yakimas, then, of course, they could inherit on the Kalispel but those who are registered as Kalispels could not inherit on the Yakima.

Senator McGOVERN. I see. Since they have that option with the children, why wouldn't they take advantage of that? I suppose there are other reasons why they prefer that they not do it.

Mr. DELLWO. Well, yes; there are many other reasons. There is tribal loyalty and tribal affiliation. There is a dominant member of the family who want the children to be Coeur d'Alenes.

Senator McGOVERN. Yes.