

TACOMA, WASH.,
March 2, 1968.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
U.S. Senator, Washington, D.C.:

I am a member of the Yakima Tribe. Majority members are overwhelmingly for the repeal of section 7 of Yakima Enrollment Act of 1946. Albert A. Grorud is familiar with our problem. We wish him to represent us on March 4th.

MYRTLE B. MOCKEL.

MALCOLM S. McLEOD,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SEATTLE, WASH.,
February 26, 1968.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR "SCOOP": I wish to go on record as being against the Yakima Enrollment Act, and in favor of the bill which will abolish this discriminatory, unfair and impossible piece of legislation. I have had in the course of the last eighteen years of work with the Indians, numerous instances where widows, orphans and elderly defenseless persons have been denied their inheritance by this vicious act, because they were unable to hire a lawyer and unable to provide the proof that their Indian blood exceeded one-quarter so that they could inherit their own family's property. I would estimate that in the past several years, over one million dollars worth of property has been forfeited by various Indian heirs because of the unfair provision of the Yakima Enrollment Act.

I would appreciate it if you could use your good office to see that the bill is passed that will abolish this discriminatory statute.

Thank you for your courtesy.

Cordially yours,

MALCOLM S. McLEOD.

EVERETT, WASH., February 23, 1968.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.:

Regarding Senate Bill 1764, Section 7 elimination, we are in favor of the passage of S. 1764.

It is not right as laws stand for Yakimas to inherit trust lands elsewhere and we don't inherit in Yakima Tribe after we become intermarried into their Tribe.

This was brought before Stillaguamish Tribe as several are married into Yakima Tribe. We also have few Lummi Tribe members here who have married into Yakima Tribe and have no inheritance after Yakima member died.

JOHN P. SILVA,
Chairman, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians.

Mr. JACKSON. I want to ask you a question. What difference would this make, supposing the majority of the Yakima people were in favor of it? We still would not gain anything.

Senator McGOVERN. Congress does not have to await a referendum on any issue to act.

Mr. JACKSON. That is right.

Senator McGOVERN. And I think the point that the witness was making is that the position of the tribal officers does not necessarily reflect tribal opinion. But I think the point is well taken that that is an irrelevant matter in terms of what Congress ought to do in discharging its own function.