

12-19-1855

Military road from Fort Steilacoom to Bellingham Bay. Memorial of the Legislature of Washington Territory, for a military road from Fort Steilacoom to Bellingham Bay.

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MILITARY ROAD FROM FORT STEILACOOM TO BELLINGHAM BAY.

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MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY,

FOR

*A military road from Fort Steilacoom to Bellingham bay.*

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MARCH 14, 1856.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

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*Memorial praying an appropriation by Congress for a military road from Fort Steilacoom to Bellingham bay.*

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Washington, would respectfully represent : That there has been selected at Bellingham bay, which is on the extreme northern verge of our Territory, a site for a military post ; that there are no means of communication between Fort Steilacoom, at present the most northern military post in the Territory and the said post, and the settlements in the vicinity, except by water ; that in case of an attack by Indians, or other enemy, communication with Fort Steilacoom, or other places, would be liable to great delay by the long calms in summer, and the storms and bad weather in winter ; that a military road connecting said posts would, in a military point of view, be invaluable, to say nothing of the development of the resources of our Territory, and establishing communication between our people ; that those citizens who have carried the benefits of civilization to our utmost boundary have at all times a strong claim on the government for protection, but more especially now that a war exists, which renders them liable to be cut off before any assistance could reach them. To avert such an evil, and to secure a safe, reliable, and rapid transportation of troops, arms, and supplies, at all seasons, to the exposed and hitherto unprotected settlements on our northwestern frontier, your

memorialists pray your honorable bodies to grant a sufficient appropriation to establish a military road from Fort Steilacoom to the military post at Bellingham bay.

Passed House of Representatives December 19, 1855.

A. A. DENNY,  
*Speaker House of Representatives.*

Passed Council December 20, 1855.

SETH CATLIN,  
*President of the Council.*