

1-25-1865

Indians of Arizona. Memorial of the Legislature of Arizona, asking of Congress an appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for placing Indians of the Colorado on a reservation

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ou.edu/indianserialset>

 Part of the [Indian and Aboriginal Law Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

H.R. Misc. Doc. No. 16, 38th Cong., 2nd Sess. (1865)

This House Miscellaneous Document is brought to you for free and open access by University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899 by an authorized administrator of University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [darinfox@ou.edu](mailto:darinfox@ou.edu).

INDIANS OF ARIZONA.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF ARIZONA,

ASKING

*Of Congress an appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for placing Indians of the Colorado on a reservation.*

JANUARY 25, 1865.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

MEMORIAL of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona.

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

Your memorialists, the council and house of representatives of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona, respectfully represent: That the four tribes of Indians known as the Yavapais, Hualipais, Mojaves, and Yumas, numbering about ten thousand, are now scattered over an extent of country from the Gila river on the south to the northern boundary of the Territory, and from the Colorado river on the west to the Rio Verde on the east; that these Indians are now roaming at large over the vast territory above described, gaining a precarious subsistence from the small patches of land along the Colorado river, which they cultivate, and from fishing and hunting; that when the seasons are unfavorable to their little farming interests, or the Colorado river does not overflow to irrigate and enrich their fields, they are reduced to a starving condition, and compelled, by necessity, to make raids upon the stock and property of the whites, and not unfrequently do they ambush the traveller and miner, and waylay and stampede the stock of trains and plunder their packs and wagons; that the whites are settling up the country, and necessarily diminishing their means of subsistence, and increasing the dangers of a collision with them; that the late superintendent of Indian affairs of the Territory, honorable Charles D. Poston, in view of their scattered and destitute condition, selected and caused to be laid off, on the east bank and bottom of the Colorado river, a reservation ample enough for the accommodation and support of all the above-named tribes; that an irrigating canal can be constructed at an expense of a small amount, (the Indians performing the labor,) that will render highly productive a large tract of land that will yield an abundance for their support, and afford a large surplus to be disposed of for their education and improvement; that when placed

upon said reservation they can, under judicious management, be made not only self-sustaining, but to produce largely for the market; that, to enable those who may be placed over them or have charge of them to open said canal, to remove them upon said reservation and sustain them until they can, by their own labor, provide enough for their subsistence, your memorialists respectfully ask of your honorable body an appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; that to secure the attention and favorable consideration of the subject and matters of this memorial by the Congress of the United States, be it

*Resolved by the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona,* That our delegate in Congress, the honorable Charles D. Poston, be requested to use all honorable means to bring the subject before Congress; and be it further

*Resolved,* That his excellency the governor of the Territory of Arizona be requested to forward this memorial, together with such other information touching the subject as he may have in his possession, to the honorable Charles D. Poston, our delegate in Congress.

W. CLAUDE JONES,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*  
COLES BASHFORD,  
*President of the Council.*

Approved November 7, 1864.

JOHN N. GOODWIN.

A true copy of the original as on file in my office. Witness my hand and  
[SEAL.] the seal of my office. Given at Prescott this 16th day of November,  
A. D. 1864.

R. C. McCORMICK,  
*Secretary of the Territory.*