

3-22-1866

Memorial of the Legislature of Iowa, for government aid to the extension, in Iowa, of the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific Railroad.

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Recommended Citation

H.R. Misc. Doc. No. 74, 39th Cong., 1st Sess. (1866)

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AID TO IOWA BRANCH OF THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

MEMORIAL
OF THE
LEGISLATURE OF IOWA,
FOR

Government aid to the extension, in Iowa, of the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific railroad.

MARCH 22, 1866.—Referred to the Select Committee on the Pacific Railroad, and ordered to be printed.

MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION asking Congress to grant the same aid to the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific railroad as has been granted to the Kansas branch of the same road.

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

Your memorialists, the general assembly of the State of Iowa, would most respectfully represent, that the same interests of the general government which prompted the enactment of the "Act to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean, and to secure to the government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes," approved July 1, 1862, also exist, and apply with all their force, to the extension of that line of railroad and telegraph from the Missouri river to the capital of the State of Iowa; that even still further reason exists for such extension, in the fact that the large expenditure by the government in the construction of the main line, west from Omaha, must remain to a considerable extent less useful and profitable, until a connecting road east from said point is constructed. That the early construction of such road is of great importance, not only to Iowa, but to the federal government; and it can only be done by granting to such road the same or similar aid as that granted to the main line; that every principle of justice, and every consideration of interest, military, civil or pecuniary, which prompted the aid to construct the main line, and especially that given to construct the Kansas branch of the Union Pacific railroad, exist and apply to the granting of like aid to the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific railroad.

That a company for the construction of such road has been duly organized under the laws of Iowa, and is composed of persons of recognized ability and integrity.

Your memorialists would further represent, that the State of Iowa, like Kansas, is a frontier State. That during the national struggles, just closed, Iowa has cheerfully done her full duty in fighting the rebels in arms against the government and at the same time has protected her frontier from the incursions of hostile Indians. That while we do not desire to improperly bear testimony to the devotion and patriotism of our own State, we do feel that it is not unjust to Kansas to say that Iowa has done her duty as faithfully as has Kansas, and we need claim no more.

That, in every particular, the claims of Iowa upon the general government are equal to those of Kansas, and the interests of the federal government will be at least as greatly promoted by the construction of the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific railroad leading from the terminus at Omaha, through Council Bluffs, to Des Moines, the capital of the State, as by the construction of the Kansas branch, and that the Iowa branch has advantages in that it is a continuation of the main line.

Be it resolved by the general assembly of the State of Iowa, That Congress be, and hereby is, memorialized to pass, and our senators in Congress are hereby instructed and our representatives requested to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a law granting to the Iowa branch of the Union Pacific Railroad Company the same aid, under the same restrictions and limitations, as has been granted to the Kansas branch of the Union Pacific railroad.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be, and hereby is, instructed to forward a duly certified copy of the foregoing memorial and joint resolution to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

ED. WRIGHT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B. F. GUE,
President of the Senate.

Approved March 6, 1866.

W. M. STONE.

The above is a true copy of the original resolution now on file in my office.

JAMES WRIGHT,
Secretary of State.

MARCH 12, 1866.