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**Letter from the Assistant Secretary of War, transmitting a statement of reasons for the enactment of a draft of a bill pending before the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted by the Secretary of the Interior, in relation to the rights of a United States officer or agent to make arrests of Indians upon Indian reservations.**

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ARRESTS OF INDIANS UPON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

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LETTER

FROM

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

*A statement of reasons for the enactment of a draft of a bill pending before the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted by the Secretary of the Interior, in relation to the rights of a United States officer or agent to make arrests of Indians upon Indian reservations.*

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MARCH 24, 1896.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., March 23, 1896.

SIR: Referring to the draft of a bill pending before the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted by the Secretary of the Interior, to amend section 9 of the act approved March 3, 1885, in relation to the rights of a United States officer or agent to make arrests of Indians upon Indian reservations for the commission of certain offenses, I have the honor to state that the Major-General Commanding the Army has recommended to the Secretary of War that the passage of this bill be urged upon Congress, in view of its manifest advantage and importance toward preventing useless collisions with Indians.

The Department fully concurs in the views of the Commanding-General of the Army as to the desirability of the proposed legislation.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH B. DOE,  
*Assistant Secretary of War.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.