Joint Resolution and Memorial: President pro tempore

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 8, 1889. — Presented by the President pro tempore, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

JOINT RESOLUTION AND MEMORIAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, URGING THE PASSAGE OF THE PENDING BILL FOR THE OPENING TO SETTLEMENT OF A PORTION OF THE SIOUX INDIAN RESERVATION IN DAKOTA.

To the honorable the Congress of the United States:

The legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota respectfully represents that the people of the Territory most earnestly desire and petition the passage of the bill now pending and known as House bill 11645 in the House of Representatives of the United States, providing for the opening of a portion of the Great Sioux Indian Reservation in the Territory of Dakota to settlement, and recommend that said House bill No. 11645 be so amended as to make the White River the entire southern boundary of the district to be opened to settlement in Dakota, believing this natural boundary to be better for both Indians and whites.

That the opening to settlement of the land contemplated in said pending bill under the provisions thereof would be both humane and beneficial to the Indians, and would greatly enhance the growth and prosperity of the Territory.

That it will open a direct avenue between the populous communities of the eastern part of the Territory which are without fuel and the coal and other minerals of the Black Hills and Montana, and enable the people of the Territory to reduce the price of fuel, now very expensive.

That the portion of the reservation proposed to be opened is not used by the Indians, and is the origin of numerous prairie fires which tend to reduce the rain-fall and increase the hot winds, which often damage the crops of our people in those portions lying near the reservation.