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10/23/03
Date

2003 SENATE FINANCE AND TAXATION

SCR 4035

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR4035

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 26, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		3565-end
1		X	1-580
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mary Kay Latham</i>			

Minutes:

Senator Urlacher opened the hearing on SCR4035. Five committee members present, Senator Wardner testifying in another room, will return shortly. This resolution directs the Legislative Council to study legislative alternatives to foster and promote economic development in areas on or near the Indian reservations in North Dakota.

Senator Linda Christenson (mtr #3580) - Introduced the resolution and explained its merits and intent. This resolution focuses on the economic development on or near Indian Reservations.

Urges the full consideration of the committee.

Carol Two Eagles (mtr #3928) - Testified in support of the resolution. Would like to dispel myths that tribal members get a check from the government. has been involved in SCORE, small business development. Talked about the disadvantages of Indian life and the discrimination she has experienced as a business owner.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #5350) - Closed the hearing on SCR4035.

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Date

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Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SCR4035

Hearing Date February 26, 2003

Senator Wardner (mtr #5489) - Question on the second page, what is the study asking for?

Senator Urlacher (mtr #5573) - Gave his understanding of that page.

Senator Tollefson (mtr #5739) - Commerce Department must enter into the picture. The reservations have sovereignty issues.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #5820) - Commerce Department may coordinate at the federal level.

Senator Wardner (mtr #5932) - Indians do live in ND. Their problems are our problems.

Education should be a higher priority with the tribes. Educational priorities not what they should be.

Tape 1, Side B

Senator Seymour (mtr #1) - Uniband big is his area. Has talked to reservation people regarding economic development.

Senator Tollefson (mtr #58) - Sovereignty of nation is a stumbling block for tribes. If this resolution helps the tribes, will support it.

Senator Nichols (mtr #107) - Education is important. Schools have communication problems with students which becomes a learning problem.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #226) - Projects have been developed in the past. Tribal leadership is well educated. Not enough communication between the state and Indian tribes.

Senator Syverson (mtr #302) - Is a need for legitimate education.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #400) - Talked about differences in communication over time between the state and the tribes.

Senator Seymour (mtr #457) - Is a challenge to bring all groups together for economic development.

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Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SCR4035

Hearing Date February 26, 2003

Senator Nichols (mtr #507) - moved a Do Pass. 2nd by Senator Wardner. Roll call vote 6 yea, 0
nay, 0 absent. Carrier is Senator Seymour.

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Deanna Galt
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10/23/03
Date

Date: 2.26.03
Roll Call Vote #:

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCA 4035

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken De pass

Motion Made By Sen. Nichols Seconded By Sen. Wardner

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Urlacher - Chairman	✓		Senator Nichols	✓	
Senator Wardner - Vice Chairman	✓		Senator Seymour	✓	
Senator Syverson	✓				
Senator Tollefson	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Seymour

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Deanna Tollefson
Operator's Signature

10/23/03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 26, 2003 1:42 p.m.

Module No: SR-34-3523
Carrier: Seymour
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SCR 4035: Finance and Taxation Committee (Sen. Urscher, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4035 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-34-3523

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Deanna Hall
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10/23/03
Date

2003 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION

SCR 4035

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Deanna Talbot
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10/23/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4035

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 10, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #

Committee Clerk Signature *Jamie Stein*

Minutes:

REP. WES BELTER, CHAIRMAN Called the hearing to order.

SEN. LINDA CHRISTENSON, DIST. 18. Introduced the resolution. The problem that comes with this resolution, is that it is too big to be a bill. It needs to be dealt with in some time and some patience, and a deep study that can only be done with adequate resources. This is about some problems which come with Native Americans and the situation they find themselves in our state. Related to the third whereas in the resolution. Over fifty percent of the welfare recipients, approximately one third of the prison population and fifty percent unemployment, when you are dealing with social problems of this magnitude, what you are dealing with is a society that has not worked well for individuals within it. It needs an opportunity to come into its own and to solve some of these problems. We need to take a positive step here by setting up a study that will help us deal with some possibilities of solving social issues. In the solving of social issues, we find so often, it comes to economic development. As an educator, I can tell you, that education

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10/23/03
Date

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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4035
Hearing Date March 10, 2003

can alleviate many many problems, but you have to put education in a context where people are adequately fed, adequately sheltered and have some work. This resolution is to look at the issue and think about what can be done, either on or near reservations, to give these people an opportunity to be integrated into the whole and good well being of our society in general.

REP. BELTER To your knowledge, have the tribes carried on any studies similar to what this resolution would have?

SEN. CHRISTENSON I can't speak with authority on that, I would certainly believe they have made every effort to make some kind of progress and establish some sort of form whereby they could address these problems. This is very broadly based, statewide.

REP. WEILER Related to the casinos, there have been rumors regarding the profit from the casinos, years ago, they said the people were going to share in that revenue, if that is so, is there any dollar amount you can give?

SEN. CHRISTENSON I am sorry I don't have the background of the dollar amount in the casinos, I know there is a lot of myths around the profit from casinos, and it needs to be looked at wholistically, rather than, is it giving a profit. What has it done on the reservations in terms of employment, and those sorts of things. The profit amount has not been near anything most people assume.

REP. WEILER That is what I was getting at.

CAROL TWO EAGLES, Testified in support of the bill. Gave her background as being in the micro-business in Indian made foods. She stated they did not have diabetes prior to 1934. When they got the Indian Reorganization Act of Welfare in 1934, they got their first case of diabetes in 1939. The suicide rate for Indians is 382 % higher than for non Indian people, nationwide, it is

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10/23/03
Date

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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4035
Hearing Date March 10, 2003

4000 times higher. Work decreases that. Indian families account for fifty percent of the needy family caseloads in North Dakota. Economic opportunities decrease this caseload. The profit from casinos varies statewide. She stated when the casinos were set up, the head of the household would get a per capita payment. Unfortunately, we don't have the population for the casinos here, to get large profits. Every reservation deals with its per cap differently relative to whether you are living on the reservation or not living on the reservation. There are a bunch of Standing Rockers who have filed a lawsuit because Standing Rock treats its non residents, for certain parts of the year at least, you have to be there a certain length of time, as some kind of second class citizen. When there is a per capita, which is not often, then non residents are not eligible. Some people ask why they can't get the records from the casinos, and it is because, Indian nations are sovereign. Tribal business is owned by the tribal council and is not always met well by the population at large. She talked about a feud relating to a difference of opinion in getting a refinery at the Three Affiliated Tribes reservation. She stated if the Native Americans had work to do, crime, alcoholism and suicides would drop.

REP. NICHOLAS Asked whether her company had received any grants from APUC.

CAROL TWO EAGLES No, we have been there three times, and three times we have been told there is no such thing as an Indian loan.

REP. NICHOLAS When you talked about allotments, etc., starting in 1934, what is the welfare allotments, is there monthly checks allocated to each tribal member?

CAROL TWO EAGLES The welfare ties between the tribal budget, which are federally funded, and whatever tribal businesses are turning a profit, for example, the last I heard, they were turning a profit at the _____ construction which is at home, that money goes into their

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10/23/03
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House Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4035
Hearing Date March 10, 2003

tribal coffer, then the people who are on general assistance, don't always qualify for state or federal welfare, for whatever reason, but it all ties into a total formula between social security, SSI, general welfare, both state and federal and the tribal profits. When my mother was still alive, one month I remember, she got a check for \$32. The formula was failing at that point in time. The amount of money can vary by how many people are laid off their jobs.

REP. BELTER I don't see anyone here from the tribes to testify, on the Senate side, did any of the tribes testify?

CAROL TWO EAGLES Yes, they sent testimony. there are some high level meetings going on right now in Washington. All the tribal chairs are there. The attorney for the tribes was in a car accident, and was not able to testify, but will send testimony.

With no further testimony, the hearing was closed.

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Deanna Williams
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10/23/03
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2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4035

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 11, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
3	X		25

Committee Clerk Signature *Janice Stein*

Minutes:

COMMITTEE ACTION

REP. BELTER Stated that he was contacted by someone who stated the tribes were not in support of this resolution, and that there would be another resolution coming that the tribes do support.

REP. KLEIN Made a motion for a **DO NOT PASS**.

REP. IVERSON Second the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

7 YES 5 NO 0 2 ABSENT

REP. IVERSON Was given the floor assignment.

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Date: **3-11-03**
Roll Call Vote #: **7**

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. **SCR 4035**

House FINANCE & TAXATION Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Rep. Klein Seconded By Rep. Iverson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
BELTER, CHAIRMAN	✓				
DROVDAL, VICE-CHAIR	✓				
CLARK		✓			
FROELICH		✓			
GROSZ	✓				
HEADLAND	✓				
IVERSON	✓				
KELSH		✓			
KLEIN	✓				
NICHOLAS	A				
SCHMIDT		✓			
WEILER	✓				
WIKENHEISER	A				
WINRICH		✓			

Total (Yes) 7 No 5

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep. Iverson

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10/23/03
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REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 12, 2003 11:40 a.m.

Module No: HR-44-4551
Carrier: Iverson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SCR 4035: Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Belter, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (7 YEAS, 5 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4035 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-44-4551

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