

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 223**

Introduced by Avery, 28; Dierks, 40.

Read first time January 11, 2008

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

WHEREAS, the United States Congress enacted the Native American \$1 Coin Act to require the United States Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue coins in commemoration of Native Americans and the important contributions made by Indian tribes and individual Native Americans to the development of the United States and the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Native American \$1 Coin Act provides for the redesign and issuance of circulating \$1 coins to accomplish this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the \$1 coins are to have as the design on the obverse the "Sacagawea" design and on the reverse various images celebrating the important contributions made by Native Americans to the development of the United States and the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the designs selected for the reverse of the coins may depict individuals and events and shall be chosen by the Secretary of the Treasury after consultation with the Committee

on Indian Affairs of the Senate, the Congressional Native American Caucus of the House of Representatives, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Congress of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, the case of Standing Bear vs. Crook was an important development in the history of Indian-white relations and was a catalyst for far-reaching changes in federal policy affecting thousands of Native Americans throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Standing Bear vs. Crook stands for the propositions "that an Indian is a person within the meaning of the laws of the United States, and has therefore the right to sue out a writ of habeas corpus in a federal court and before a federal judge, in all cases where he may be confined, or in custody under color of authority of the United States, or where he is restrained of liberty in violation of the constitution or laws of the United States," and "that the Indians possess the inherent right of expatriation as well as the more fortunate white race, and have the inalienable right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," so long as they obey the laws and do not trespass on forbidden ground."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature urges the Secretary of the Treasury to select Standing Bear as one of the designs for the reverse of the Native American \$1 coin to commemorate Standing Bear's important contribution.

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2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the United States Mint, and the members of the Nebraska congressional delegation.