

Bill No 41.

Resolution
Responding to a special message of the Principal Chief concerning the sale of the Coal & asphalt Lands and Deposits of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

Whereas: The Principal Chief, by Special Message, submitted at the regular October session of the General Council, Nov. 21, 1905, has asked this body for an expression of its view as to best and most advantageous way of selling the Coal & asphalt lands and deposits of the Choctaw & Chickasaw Nations; And,

Whereas, The Principal Chief in his special message referred to an unofficial offer of fifteen million dollars for the entire Coal & asphalt interest of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, as indicating the temper of the market for said Coal and Asphalt property as a whole, which amount ~~is~~ far exceeds in average price per acre, the offers heretofore made under sealed bids; And,

Whereas: ~~It is well known that~~ The present plan of selling the Coal and Asphalt lands and deposits by sealed bids has utterly failed to dispose of said lands on any part of them; And

Whereas: It is well known that the Leased Coal and Asphalt lands and deposits are far superior in value to the unleased lands and deposits.

Therefore

Be it resolved by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation assembled,

That, in response to the special message of the Principal Chief

requesting an expression of the Council as to the best and most advantageous way of selling the Coal and Asphalt lands and deposits of the Choctaw & Chickasaw Nations, we hereby declare our opposition to the present methods of selling said lands for the following reasons:

First Sale by sealed bids has proved a failure for the reason among other things, that it does not give competition in bidding—

Second— We are opposed to putting all our inferior coal lands on the market, that is: The unleased coal lands, to the exclusion of our ~~of~~ superior lands; That is, the leased coal lands, the reason that the price that will be paid for our inferior coal lands will set a low precedent for our best coal lands, and thereby exert an improper and damaging influence on our coal market.

Third We are opposed to restricting the sale of our coal lands to nine hundred and sixty acre tracts, for the reason that it shuts the small purchaser out of the market entirely, and on the other hand the large purchaser is not attracted because it does not permit him to buy as much as he might want.

Fourth— We would like to suggest, and in suggesting it would direct the officers of our government in the same, that an effort be

We are opposed to the present manner of the sale of our coal lands for the reason that it does not sufficiently advertise said properties.

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