

affect the members of the tribe, they're here in numbers today up in the balcony, how it's going to affect the non-Indian residents of Thurston County, 5, 10, 15 and 20 years from now because in the end the theoretical arguments have been set. The theoretical framework of this has been established over decades and decades of policy. Many times errors have been made. Many times errors haven't been made but in any event, that's beyond our control.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: One minute.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: What is within our control here in the Legislature and what we need to be concerned about, I think, is the immediate effect of this thing on the people involved. And frankly I think the immediate effect particularly on the members of the Winnebago Tribe is favorable. I think the tribe has shown remarkable progress the last 10 or 15 years. If I had more time I would elaborate on that. We had some extremely good testimony on the issue of what's happened in tribal affairs the last 10 or 15 years to kind of shed light on how retrocession is going to assist the tribe in furthering its efforts to be independent, to be self-sufficient, to be free of dependence on the federal government or on the state government. Let me just close with one comment which I think was helpful to me and that is that there were two representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, federal employees, long-time federal employees and specialists in Indian matters and I asked one of those BIA employees this question during the hearing. Sir, do you think that there are any significant rights or privileges currently held by non-Indians that reside on the reservation and near the reservation that will be infringed upon if retrocession is granted? Answer by Mr. Don Whitner, no, not at all, not at all.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Your time is up, Senator.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: So in the end we have to balance. We have to balance what is best for the tribe against what is best for the other residents against what is best for everyone. It is a difficult balance, but after as much time as I've spent on this issue, I think the balance is on the side of approval of the resolution. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Hoagland. Senator