



## H.RES. 1043 – HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CHIEF STANDING BEAR, A PIONEER IN CIVIL RIGHTS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS, ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHIEF STANDING BEAR'S DEATH

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1043 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) on March 12, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1043 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on April 29, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1043 resolves that the House of Representatives honors the life, legacy, and contributions to civil rights of Chief Standing Bear.

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### BACKGROUND

Chief Standing Bear was the chief of the Ponca Native American Tribe, settled in Nebraska. In 1879, Chief Standing Bear won a decision before the U.S. District Court in the matter of *United States, ex rel. Standing Bear, v. George Crook* which stated that a Native American is a person within the meaning of the law, and therefore has a right to the writ of habeas corpus.

Although he did not speak English, Chief Standing Bear spent several years traveling and advocating for the civil rights of Native Americans using translators. He died in 1908.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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