## **Oneida** Nation

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Oneida, WI 54155

## BC Resolution # 11-26-19-B Support H.R. Bill 3467 Remove the Stain Act

- **WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS, the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS, we adopt this resolution in support of the H.R. Bill 3467, otherwise known as "Remove the Stain" Act, which would officially rescind 20 Medals of Honor originally awarded to members of the U.S. 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry for their actions stemming from the Wounded Creek Massacre; and
- WHEREAS, on December 29, 1890, around 350-375 unarmed Lakota men, women, and children were killed in a massacre committed by the U.S. 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry while participating in a ceremony intended to restore their traditional homelands of Cankpe' Opi Wakpa, or Wounded Knee Creek, to their pre-settler state; and
- WHEREAS, the Medal of Honor is the highest military award of the United States, awarded sparingly and only to the bravest of the brave, and there are members of the Oneida Nation who have received this significant honor reflecting acknowledgement of their actions on behalf of the United States in carrying out their duties to protect others, avert harm, rescue injured, and similar heroic actions; and
- WHEREAS, the atrocities committed in this tragedy are unbecoming of the social and moral constraints of humanity, do not reflect the honor and dignity of the United States or any of its military branches, and are certainly not actions consistent with the award of a Medal of Honor; and
- WHEREAS, it is actions like these that have contributed to the long-lasting effects of historical trauma experienced amongst tribal communities for generations, whether experienced through the individual Native Nation or through the community of Native Nations; and
- WHEREAS, one of the Oneida Business Committee's priorities, evidenced in its long standing mission, vision and values, and an inherent part of our culture and history, is the promotion of the importance of Yethiya?tahni·látse? -making us strong physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually- this bill provides an opportunity to right the wrongs of history and contributes to correcting the historical inaccuracies captured in much of United States history surrounding Indigenous Peoples;

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Business Committee, on behalf of the Oneida Nation, its members, and all veterans of the Oneida Nation, supports H.R. Bill 3467: Remove the Stain Act and encourages its adoption into law.

## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 6 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 5 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting\*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Lisa Summers, Secretary

Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."