

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

PASSED BY THE TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

NUMBER 1.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION AND MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, to the Congress of the United States, in Reference to the Election of United States Senators by a Direct Vote of the People.

Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

That our Representatives in Congress be requested and our Senators be instructed to vote for and use their active influence to secure an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, providing for the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people of the several states.

That the secretary of state be and is hereby instructed to forthwith transmit a copy hereof to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

NUMBER 11.

JOINT RESOLUTION Instructing our Senators and Requesting Our Representatives in Congress to Procure the Passage of an Act of Congress which shall Provide for Indemnifying the Bona Fide Settlers Upon What is Known as the Des Moines River Lands, Whose Titles Have Failed.

WHEREAS, On August 8th, 1846, an act was passed by Congress granting certain lands to the territory of Iowa, to aid in the improvement of the navigation of the Des Moines river, "From its mouth to the Raccoon Fork, one equal moiety * * * * * in a strip five miles in width on each side of the river," and,

WHEREAS, The words, "On each side of the river," were construed by the commissioner of the general land office, by the secretary of the treasury, by the attorney-general and by other officers of the government, at one time to extend throughout the entire length of said river, and at another time as only extending to the Raccoon Fork, leaving the extent of said grant entirely unsettled; and,

WHEREAS, The supreme court of Iowa, at its December term, 1859, in the case of *Railroad Company vs. Litchfield* (28, How. 66), decided that the Raccoon Fork was the northern limit of the grant; and,

WHEREAS, The State of Iowa had patented a large portion of the grant above the Raccoon Fork, relying upon the decisions of the land department and officers of the government; and,