



Pride Of The Ojibwa
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December 3, 2013

Representative Jeffrey Mursau, Chair
Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations
One East Main Street, Suite 401
PO Box 2536
Madison, WI 53701-2536

Dear Representative Mursau:

Thank you for your letter dated October 3, 2013 regarding the topic of Public Law 280 and retrocession of P.L. 280 jurisdiction. Thank you also for the excellent educational opportunity the committee provided on this complex topic.

In response to your question, the Lac Courte Oreilles Band is not prepared to pursue retrocession in the near future. However, it is the Tribal Governing Board's position that legislation should still be pursued and a process developed similar to what the State of Washington has done. This process will determine what steps a tribe like Lac Courte Oreilles will need to take if and when it decides to retrocede from P.L. 280. It seems that both the legislative process and our decision to retrocede will both take time and can occur simultaneously.

I would also like to inform you that William Morrow has resigned as our representative on the Special Committee. Russell Barber, Lac Courte Oreilles Vice Chairman, has been designated by the Tribal Governing Board as our representative. You will be receiving a resignation letter from William Morrow in the near future if you have not already.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please contact me or Russell Barber with any comments or questions at (715) 634-8934.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael J. Isham, Jr.".

Michael J. Isham, Jr.
Chairman

Cc: Tribal Governing Board
Kris Goodwill, Tribal Attorney