

As a resident of Nevada County, I am honored to express my support for the Nisenan people of the Nevada City Rancheria in their quest to restore their status as a federally-recognized Native American "Indian" Tribe. As your constituent, I ask that you prioritize public expression of our community's support for their efforts.

As you may know, Native American reservations in California are known as Rancherias. The Nisenan were the only Natives with a federally-recognized Rancheria reservation within Nevada County. Please note that sometimes people mistakenly say the Nisenan were the only Tribe with territory in Nevada County, but the Washoe had some territory on the Eastern edge of the county near the state border.

In the 1950's and 1960's, more than 40 California Rancherias were illegally terminated. Since the 1980's, there has been a continual effort to rectify these terminations. As Jack Potter Jr., Chairperson of the Redding Rancheria, said, "The tragic and disgraceful era of federal termination of Indian Tribes has ended, and the majority of California Rancherias have now been restored." But the Nisenan are amongst those still working to regain their federal recognition.

I understand a resolution in Nevada County in support of Nisenan goals is instrumental in the process of introducing a bill in congress. I ask for your support just as in August 2018 the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County unanimously supported the Lytton Rancheria, which is currently seeking to regain a home on their original territory through the Lytton Rancheria Homelands Act of 2017 (H.R. 597). Our local tribe needs local governmental support. If the tribe is able to flourish, it will benefit the community at large.

As your constituent, I urge you to quickly pass a resolution codifying community support of the federal recognition restoration efforts of the Nisenan people of the Nevada City Rancheria. Thank you for your time and consideration.