

INVOCATION BY ARCHIE BEN CHIEF, CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ INDIANS

Almighty God, Creator of Heaven and Earth and provider of all good things, we ask that you will give us guidance and be present to support us as we participate in the activities of Indian Week, more especially, as we open this session of the State Legislature with our traditional prayer. The song I sang has, from time immemorial, been a prayer which our tribe has sung to start all important gatherings. In it, we ask the Great Spirit for his presence and participation. This indeed is a very important meeting. We, therefore, ask your presence here today to assist the members of the Senate in their deliberation. Give them the wisdom and courage to make wise decisions for all people of this state. See to it that the laws they pass protect our natural and human resources. Provide education and jobs for all so that we may become better citizens of our state, cities, and tribes. Thank you, Heavenly Father, for this opportunity to participate in this week as we recognize accomplishments of our Indian people.