

Indian Tribe Bill Is Introduced

By **DAVID E. McMILLAN**
State Senator

OLYMPIA — I have introduced Senate Bill No. 478 which sets forth certain items of local self-government which Indian tribes would retain under state jurisdiction. It is my understanding that this would result in cooperation between county officials and tribal councils to the benefit of both parties.

Before introducing this bill, I conferred with the attorney for the Spokane tribe as well as local Indian officials.

I have also introduced Senate Bill No. 496 which provides for a survey and cost study for the extension of the North Cross State highway from Tiger in Pend Oreille county to Metaline Falls, then to Sullivan lake and on to Pass creek.

Idaho road officials are cooperating in a survey and study from Pass creek to Bonners Ferry, Idaho. The North Cross State highway will eventually be a tourist attraction of the first magnitude.

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Members of both houses of the legislature are busily introducing bills for new roads and improvements of existing facilities. The main trouble is the lack of funds for which the federal cut-back is somewhat responsible. This brings on the agitation for more gas tax. A sizeable in-

crease is being seriously considered.

Senate Bill No. 465, which I have introduced with Senators Donohue and Redmon, is an assertion and definition of private property rights. It is hoped that a hearing on this bill may be held before the end of the 1967 session.

Many people are fearful that because of a rapidly expanding population and lack of rural representation, we may suffer a loss of some of our constitutional property rights. I am of the opinion that these people should be heard here in Olympia, and I expect to arrange for such a hearing.

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Senate Bill No. 46, the air pollution bill by Senator Bob Greive, attracted much attention in heavily populated areas, especially where industry is concentrated.

It was reported out of my committee of air and water pollution February 15 along with the water resource bill. The latter was a product of the interim committee of which Senator Hallauer was chairman.

Senate Bill No. 487 by Senators Neill, Henry and myself would effect a change in the school apportionment formula. It would reimburse school districts for loss of PUD, forest or federal funds under the formula enacted in the 1965 session of the legislature.