

Stephanie Chappell
2401 14th Street E
Glencoe MN 55336

Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Committee
Chair Murphy and Members

March 15, 2023

Regarding: SF2442 Genocidal Education bill

Dear Chair Murphy and Members:

Minnesota was the site of genocide of American and Immigrant civilians in 1862. This bill is worthless without inclusion of August 18, 1862. Likewise, excluding genocide of tribes by the Ojibwe and Dakota creates bias in Indigenous history of the territory.

SF2442's Section 1, subdivision 2 (a) (1) should read and ensure educational resources are available for

Examine the history of the genocide of ~~Indigenous Peoples populations~~ and ~~Indigenous~~ removal from Minnesota, including the genocide, ethnic cleansing, dispossession, and forced removal of ~~the Dakota, Ojibwe, and Ho-Chunk~~ Americans, Immigrants and Indigenous tribes:

These changes *eliminate discrimination* of non-Indigenous groups after establishment of the United States and accommodate Indigenous populations prior to the United States including the Iowa tribe (federally recognized as the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska) that dominated southern Minnesota.

Special consideration to Minnesota's plight as the only state to be attacked by an Indigenous tribe resulting in the forced exodus of American citizens in 1862 requires attention if legislation is to dictate education. Minnesota remains the only state in the US to experience attack by a nation that caused citizens to flee; this includes the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and Pearl Harbor.

On August 18, 1862 Dakota Sioux Indian leaders ordered their commands to "*kill all whites*" resulting in the mass execution of civilians numbering over 260 in less than 12 hours with the highest concentration of those killed being unarmed women and children in the geographic location of the Minnesota River Valley consisting of the current counties of Renville, Nicollet, Brown, and Redwood including the largest mass execution in American history in Milford Township, Brown County where more than 50 perished at the hands of Indigenous people.

The August 18 Minnesota Massacre resulted in a hanging of 38 Dakota on December 26, 1862, the third largest mass execution in US history behind Galveston, TX and Milford township.

Sources documenting Dakota genocide of Euro-American people in Minnesota include:

August 18 Massacres, Mayhem, Abuse, and Attempted Extermination by Curtis Dahlin published by Curtis Dahlin, 2021. Mathematical total of those killed on August 18, eyewitness descriptions, classification of crimes against humanity, identification of victims.

Massacre in Minnesota The Dakota War of 1862, the Most Violent Ethnic Conflict in American History by Gary Clayton Anderson published by University of Oklahoma Press, 2019. Chapter five addresses August 18, Dakota's attempted ethnic cleansing, and identifies some victims by name.

Minnesota's Heritage Back to the Sources No. 1 through 7 published by Minnesota's Heritage (Roseville, MN) January 2010 through July 2012. Individual articles analyzing, examining, and pertaining to victims and chief leaders of the 1862 event.

German Pioneer Accounts of the Great Sioux Uprising of 1862 edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann published by Little Miami Publishing Company, 2002.

Through Dakota Eyes - Narrative Accounts of the Minnesota Indian War of 1862 edited by Gary Clayton Anderson and Alan R. Woolworth published by Minnesota Historical Society, 1988. Account of Jerome Big Eagle identifying order to kill the whites, page 36; other eyewitness accounts.

A History of the Great Massacre by the Sioux Indians in Minnesota Including the Personal Narratives of Many Who Escaped by Charles S. Bryant published by Rickey and Carroll, 1864. Summaries, State documents and eyewitness accounts gathered for the State of Minnesota.

I oppose distinct requirements that do not focus on all Minnesotans and do not require application of context to the event. Your attention to these details will avoid future conflicts over this very sensitive topic.

If further documentation is needed or additional questions surface, I am available to help as are others including some of the authors listed in the above source list.

Thank you,
Stephanie Chappell
Authorized Representative, VOICES
Retired MN Teacher
Glencoe, MN

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Stephanie Chappell