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IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 14, 1845.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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**AN ACT**

For the admission of the States of Iowa and Florida into the Union.

1       Whereas the people of the Territory of Iowa did, on the  
2 seventh day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-  
3 four, by a convention of delegates called and assembled for  
4 that purpose, form for themselves a Constitution and State  
5 Government: And whereas the people of the Territory of  
6 Florida did, in like manner, by their delegates, on the eleventh  
7 day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine,  
8 form for themselves a Constitution and State Government,  
9 both of which said Constitutions are republican; and said  
10 conventions having asked the admission of their respective  
11 Territories into the Union as States, on equal footing with  
12 the original States:

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*  
3 *the States of Iowa and Florida be, and the same are hereby*  
4 *declared to be, States of the United States of America, and*  
5 *are hereby admitted into the Union on equal footing with*  
6 *the original States, in all respects whatsoever.*

1        **SEC. 2.** *And be it further enacted,* That the following  
2 shall be the boundaries of the said State of Iowa, to wit :  
3 Beginning at the mouth of the Des Moines river, at the  
4 middle of the Mississippi; thence, by the middle of the chan-  
5 nel of that river, to a parallel of latitude passing through  
6 the mouth of the Mankato or Blue Earth river; thence west,  
7 along the said parallel of latitude, to a point where it is in-  
8 tersected by a meridian line seventeen degrees and thirty  
9 minutes west of the meridian of Washington city; thence,  
10 due south, to the northern boundary line of the State of  
11 Missouri; thence, eastwardly, following that boundary, to the  
12 point at which the same intersects the Des Moines river;  
13 thence, by the middle of the channel of that river, to the  
14 place of beginning.

1        **SEC. 3.** *And be it further enacted,* That the said State of  
2 Iowa shall have concurrent jurisdiction on the river Missis-  
3 sippi, and every other river bordering on the said State of  
4 Iowa, so far as the said rivers shall form a common boundary  
5 to said State, and any other State or States now or hereafter  
6 to be formed or bounded by the same; such rivers to be  
7 common to both; and that the said river Mississippi, and  
8 the navigable waters leading into the same, shall be common  
9 highways, and forever free as well to the inhabitants of said  
10 State as to all other citizens of the United States, without  
11 any tax, duty, impost, or toll, therefor, imposed by the said  
12 State of Iowa.

1        **SEC. 4.** *And be it further enacted,* That it is made and  
2 declared to be a fundamental condition of the admission of  
3 said State of Iowa into the Union, that so much of this act  
4 as relates to the said State of Iowa shall be assented to by  
5 a majority of the qualified electors, at their township elec-  
6 tions, in the manner and at the time prescribed in the sixth  
7 section of the thirteenth article of the Constitution, adopted  
8 at Iowa City the first day of November, Anno Domini one  
9 thousand eight hundred and forty-four, or by the Legislature  
10 of said State; and as soon as such assent shall be given,  
11 the President of the United States shall announce the same  
12 by proclamation; and therefrom, and without further pro-  
13 ceedings on the part of Congress, the admission of the said  
14 State of Iowa into the Union, on an equal footing in all  
15 respects whatever with the original States, shall be con-  
16 sidered as complete.

1        **SEC. 5.** *And be it further enacted,* That said State of  
2 Florida shall embrace the Territories of East and West  
3 Florida, which, by the treaty of amity, settlement, and  
4 limits, between the United States and Spain, on the twenty-  
5 second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and  
6 nineteen, were ceded to the United States.

1        **SEC. 6.** *And be it further enacted,* That, until the next  
2 census and apportionment shall be made, each of said States  
3 of Iowa and Florida shall be entitled to one Representative  
4 in the House of Representatives of the United States.

1        **SEC. 7.** *And be it further enacted,* That said States of  
2 Iowa and Florida are admitted into the Union on the express  
3 condition that they shall never interfere with the primary  
4 disposal of the public lands lying within them, nor levy any  
5 tax on the same whilst remaining the property of the  
6 United States: *Provided,* That the ordinance of the conven-  
7 tion that formed the Constitution of Iowa, and which is ap-  
8 pended to the said Constitution, shall not be deemed or ta-  
9 ken to have any effect or validity, or to be recognised as in  
10 any manner obligatory upon the Government of the United  
11 States.

Passed the House of Representatives February 13, 1845.

Attest:

**DANIEL GOLD,**

*Chief Assistant Clerk.*