

TRIBAL INTERIOR BUDGET COUNCIL RESOLUTION

TRIBAL CAUCUS

Tribal Co-Chairs
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Rick Harrison
Chickaloon Native Village

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

ALASKA

Rick Harrison
Chickaloon Native Village

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

Greg Pitcher
Shawnee Tribe

GREAT PLAINS
Nancy Green-Robertson
Spirit Lake Tribe

Harold C. Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

MIDWEST

Darrell Seki
Red Lake Nation

Chris McGeshick
Sakaoagon Chippewa Community

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Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head Aquinnah

Kiteki Carrol
United South and Eastern Tribes

NAVAJO
Russell Begaye
Navajo Nation

Lorenzo Bates
Navajo Nation

NORTHWEST

W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Greg Abrahamson
Spokane Tribe

PACIFIC
Robert Smith
Pala Reservation

Russell Attebery
Karuk Tribe

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Alvin (AJ) Not Afraid, Jr
Crow Tribe

Mark Azure
Fort Belknap Indian Community

SOUTHERN PLAINS

Ronnie Thomas
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Angela Thompson
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST

Helen Klinekole
Mescalero Apache Tribe

Terry Aguilar
Pueblo de San Ildefonso

WESTERN

Norman Honanie
Hopi Tribe of Arizona

Mervin Wright, Jr.
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

Title: Supporting the Federal Trust Responsibility for Indian Education

WHEREAS, the Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) was created to provide a forum and process, consistent with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, Section 450 (a)1 and Executive Order 13175 and Department of the Interior's (DOI) Government to Government policy, whereby Tribes and the Department work together to develop policy and budgets that provide for 1) the DOI to fulfill its Trust responsibilities and Treaty obligations; and 2) the fulfillment of Tribes' inherent sovereign rights of self-determination, self-governance, and self-sufficiency, as well as securing levels of funding necessary to strengthen Tribal governmental capacity to serve their Tribal citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS, through ratification of the Constitution, treaties, agreements, statutes and executive orders, the United States undertook a Federal trust responsibility to assist Indian nations and tribes in the education of Indian children; and

WHEREAS, according to the statement of policy in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), "It is the policy of the United States to fulfill the Federal Government's unique and continuing trust relationship with and responsibility to the Indian people for the education of Indian children"; and

WHEREAS, Tribes have a tremendous stake in improving the education of their children. While maintaining their language and culture, they must become prepared for an active and equal participation in the national and global marketplace. Indian students have to be educationally trained in two worlds. Native children must prepare to be the future leaders for their family, community and Nation. Good education of Native children is for the continued existence and integrity of tribal nations; and

WHEREAS, students attending BIE funded and operated schools experienced graduation rates at 53 percent, nearly 30 percentage points below the national average. In addition, Indian students continue to be subject to significant risk factors that threaten their ability to improve their academic achievement and their general well-being; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2018 President's budget falls woefully short of the levels needed for the Federal government to fulfill the federal trust responsibility for Native students; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2018 budget request proposes to:

- Temporarily suspend funding for BIE School Construction and cuts construction funding by \$57.8 million to \$80.2 million, a cut of more than 40% below Fiscal Year 2017 funding levels.
- Cut the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP), the core program for operation of BIE, by \$2.4 million to a proposed \$398.8 million.

- Significantly reduce funding for the Johnson O'Malley Program, which provides cultural instruction and materials to Native students. The program was cut by \$4.6 million, a more than 30% cut to \$10.2 million; and

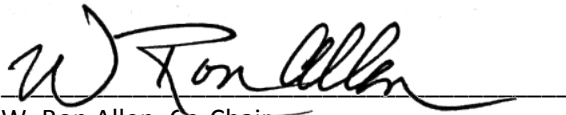
WHEREAS, BIE as a whole would be cut by \$105.1 million below the Fiscal Year 2017 Omnibus level, which would reduce the amount of funding that BIE Schools receive for each student enrolled, eliminate juvenile detention education, and cut broadband for BIE schools.

WHEREAS, the House Appropriations FY 2018 Interior-Environment spending bill (H.R. 3354, Report No. 115-238) restores all proposed program reductions for Bureau of Indian Education programs, including Scholarships and Adult Education and Johnson O'Malley programs; and

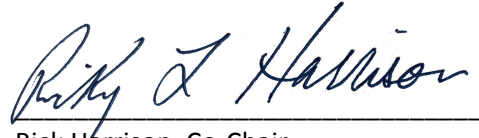
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the TIBC urges Congress to reject the proposed cuts to Indian education and to work towards increases in the Senate version of the FY 2018 Interior-Environment spending bill.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution came before the Tribal leader caucus attending the Tribal Interior Budget Council in Flagstaff, AZ on July 26, 2017 and was passed unanimously.



W. Ron Allen, Co-Chair
Tribal/Interior Budget Council



Rick Harrison, Co-Chair
Tribal/Interior Budget Council