

Tribal/Interior Budget Council – Education Subcommittee

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Washington Plaza Hotel 10 Thomas Circle, NW Washington, DC 20005

1. Introductions and Invocation

- Prayer provided by Chairman, Joe Garcia

2. Reports from Subcommittee Co-Chair – Chairman, Russel Attebery.

- Clarification on BIE/BIA / Interior funding streams
- Increased funding for higher education

3. Discussion on the Development of an Ad Hoc Committee to Address the Unmet Needs of Tribally Controlled Grant Schools (See NCAI Resolution DEN-18-049)

- Motion made by Joe Garcia, seconded by Delano Saluskia. Unanimously passed.

4. Report(s) from Tribal Organizations

- NIEA – Report on BIE funding consistently stalled within BIA.
 - Negotiated Rulemaking currently occurring
 - Encourage committee to make request to find money to complete the ESSA negotiations.
- AHIEC – State profiles for Title III Part A & F Investments.
 - Urging Congress to protect mandatory funding for TCUs by permanently authorizing Title III Part F.
 - Funding for TCU construction.
 - Inclusion of Tribal College and University in E-Rate.

5. Report from BIE Deputy Director – Sharon Pinto

- Working towards separating BIE/BIA.
 - By Oct 2019 – BIE is supposed to be fully stood up to manage responsibilities.
 - 4 dedicated contracted procurement officers. (apart of first phase)
 - Safety staff – in charge of inspecting schools for deficiencies.
 - Environmental specialist to look at water, air quality.
 - Phase two is being addressed in addition from support from assistant secretary. Through prioritization process – currently 23% capacity.
 - Education is a separate section within the upcoming Indian Affairs budget.
 - During transition BIE will still receive support from BIA through reimbursable service agreements
- GAO review of BIE – Number of issues identified. 9/13 deficiencies have been addressed.

- Significant needs / concerns from tribes:
 - General budget items (points being made today)
 - Staffing capacity.
 - At various school locations – continuous rotation of employees.
- Request to see budget before it is sent to ASIA

6. Discussion on the Budget Formulation Process ^{1}_{ISEP}

7. Discussion on Getting Needs and Priorities Data to our Federal Partners

Report Out

1. In Interior reorganization – what happens to BIA?
2. In regards to ISEP funds for things other than education, why did this happen? When did this happen?
3. AIHEC: Provide / support strong funding for the institutional operations and technical assistance under the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act; and strong funding for TCU infrastructure needs such as broadband, facilities construction and renovation, and TCU inclusion in the e-rate program.
4. Development of an Ad Hoc Committee to Address the Unmet Needs of Tribally Controlled Grant Schools (See NCAI Resolution DEN-18-049)
 - a. Supported – Motion made by Joe Garcia, seconded by Delano Saluskia
5. Health insurance – bringing Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) to BIE. Cannot get into health insurance unless your 638 (BIA) - 297 (BIE). Issue is status. Encourage interior to make correction. (Potentially as a task by Ad-Hoc Committee).