

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2719

To provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2000

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. INOUE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Native American Busi-
5 ness Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of
6 2000”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the
10 United States Constitution recognizes the special re-

1 relationship between the United States and Indian
2 tribes;

3 (2) beginning in 1970, with the inauguration by
4 the Nixon Administration of the Indian self-deter-
5 mination era, each President has reaffirmed the spe-
6 cial government-to-government relationship between
7 Indian tribes and the United States;

8 (3) in 1994, President Clinton issued an Execu-
9 tive memorandum to the heads of departments and
10 agencies that obligated all Federal departments and
11 agencies, particularly those that have an impact on
12 economic development, to evaluate the potential im-
13 pacts of their actions on Indian tribes;

14 (4) consistent with the principles of inherent
15 tribal sovereignty and the special relationship be-
16 tween Indian tribes and the United States, Indian
17 tribes retain the right to enter into contracts and
18 agreements to trade freely, and seek enforcement of
19 treaty and trade rights;

20 (5) Congress has carried out the responsibility
21 of the United States for the protection and preserva-
22 tion of Indian tribes and the resources of Indian
23 tribes through the endorsement of treaties, and the
24 enactment of other laws, including laws that provide
25 for the exercise of administrative authorities;

1 (6) the United States has an obligation to
2 guard and preserve the sovereignty of Indian tribes
3 in order to foster strong tribal governments, Indian
4 self-determination, and economic self-sufficiency
5 among Indian tribes;

6 (7) the capacity of Indian tribes to build strong
7 tribal governments and vigorous economies is hin-
8 dered by the inability of Indian tribes to engage
9 communities that surround Indian lands and outside
10 investors in economic activities on Indian lands;

11 (8) despite the availability of abundant natural
12 resources on Indian lands and a rich cultural legacy
13 that accords great value to self-determination, self-
14 reliance, and independence, Native Americans suffer
15 higher rates of unemployment, poverty, poor health,
16 substandard housing, and associated social ills than
17 those of any other group in the United States;

18 (9) the United States has an obligation to as-
19 sist Indian tribes with the creation of appropriate
20 economic and political conditions with respect to In-
21 dian lands to—

22 (A) encourage investment from outside
23 sources that do not originate with the tribes;
24 and

1 (B) facilitate economic ventures with out-
 2 side entities that are not tribal entities;

3 (10) the economic success and material well-
 4 being of Native American communities depends on
 5 the combined efforts of the Federal Government,
 6 tribal governments, the private sector, and individ-
 7 uals;

8 (11) the lack of employment and entrepre-
 9 neurial opportunities in the communities referred to
 10 in paragraph (7) has resulted in a multigenerational
 11 dependence on Federal assistance that is—

12 (A) insufficient to address the magnitude
 13 of needs; and

14 (B) unreliable in availability; and

15 (12) the twin goals of economic self-sufficiency
 16 and political self-determination for Native Americans
 17 can best be served by making available to address
 18 the challenges faced by those groups—

19 (A) the resources of the private market;

20 (B) adequate capital; and

21 (C) technical expertise.

22 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as fol-
 23 lows:

24 (1) To revitalize economically and physically
 25 distressed Native American economies by—

1 (A) encouraging the formation of new busi-
2 nesses by eligible entities, and the expansion of
3 existing businesses; and

4 (B) facilitating the movement of goods to
5 and from Indian lands and the provision of
6 services by Indians.

7 (2) To promote private investment in the econo-
8 mies of Indian tribes and to encourage the sustain-
9 able development of resources of Indian tribes and
10 Indian-owned businesses.

11 (3) To promote the long-range sustained growth
12 of the economies of Indian tribes.

13 (4) To raise incomes of Indians in order to re-
14 duce the number of Indians at poverty levels and
15 provide the means for achieving a higher standard of
16 living on Indian reservations.

17 (5) To encourage intertribal, regional, and
18 international trade and business development in
19 order to assist in increasing productivity and the
20 standard of living of members of Indian tribes and
21 improving the economic self-sufficiency of the gov-
22 erning bodies of Indian tribes.

23 (6) To promote economic self-sufficiency and
24 political self-determination for Indian tribes and
25 members of Indian tribes.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible enti-
4 ty” means an Indian tribe or tribal organization, an
5 Indian arts and crafts organization, as that term is
6 defined in section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935
7 (commonly known as the “Indian Arts and Crafts
8 Act”) (49 Stat. 891, chapter 748; 25 U.S.C. 305a),
9 a tribal enterprise, a tribal marketing cooperative
10 (as that term is defined by the Secretary, in con-
11 sultation with the Secretary of the Interior), or any
12 other Indian-owned business.

13 (2) **INDIAN.**—The term “Indian” has the mean-
14 ing given that term in section 4(d) of the Indian
15 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act
16 (25 U.S.C. 450b(d)).

17 (3) **INDIAN GOODS AND SERVICES.**—The term
18 “Indian goods and services” means—

19 (A) Indian goods, within the meaning of
20 section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935 (com-
21 monly known as the “Indian Arts and Crafts
22 Act”) (49 Stat. 891, chapter 748; 25 U.S.C.
23 305a);

24 (B) goods produced or originated by an eli-
25 gible entity; and

26 (C) services provided by eligible entities.

1 (4) INDIAN LANDS.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Indian
3 lands” includes lands under the definition of—

4 (i) the term “Indian country” under
5 section 1151 of title 18, United States
6 Code; or

7 (ii) the term “reservation” under—

8 (I) section 3(d) of the Indian Fi-
9 nancing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C.
10 1452(d)); or

11 (II) section 4(10) of the Indian
12 Child Welfare Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C.
13 1903(10)).

14 (B) FORMER INDIAN RESERVATIONS IN
15 OKLAHOMA.—For purposes of applying section
16 3(d) of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25
17 U.S.C. 1452(d)) under subparagraph (A)(ii),
18 the term “former Indian reservations in Okla-
19 homa” shall be construed to include lands that
20 are—

21 (i) within the jurisdictional areas of
22 an Oklahoma Indian tribe (as determined
23 by the Secretary of the Interior); and

24 (ii) recognized by the Secretary of the
25 Interior as eligible for trust land status

1 under part 151 of title 25, Code of Federal
2 Regulations (as in effect on the date of en-
3 actment of this Act).

4 (5) INDIAN-OWNED BUSINESS.—The term “In-
5 dian-owned business” means an entity organized for
6 the conduct of trade or commerce with respect to
7 which at least 50 percent of the property interests
8 of the entity are owned by Indians or Indian tribes
9 (or a combination thereof).

10 (6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
11 has the meaning given that term in section 4(e) of
12 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-
13 ance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).

14 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Commerce.

16 (8) TRIBAL ENTERPRISE.—The term “tribal en-
17 terprise” means a commercial activity or business
18 managed or controlled by an Indian tribe.

19 (9) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal
20 organization” has the meaning given that term in
21 section 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and
22 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).

23 **SEC. 4. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN BUSINESS DEVELOP-**
24 **MENT.**

25 (a) IN GENERAL.—

1 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established
2 within the Department of Commerce an office
3 known as the Office of Native American Business
4 Development (referred to in this Act as the “Of-
5 fice”).

6 (2) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by
7 a Director, appointed by the Secretary, whose title
8 shall be the Director of Native American Business
9 Development (referred to in this Act as the “Direc-
10 tor”). The Director shall be compensated at a rate
11 not to exceed level V of the Executive Schedule
12 under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

13 (b) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
15 through the Director, shall ensure the coordination
16 of Federal programs that provide assistance, includ-
17 ing financial and technical assistance, to eligible en-
18 tities for increased business, the expansion of trade
19 by eligible entities, and economic development on In-
20 dian lands.

21 (2) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The Sec-
22 retary, acting through the Director, shall coordinate
23 Federal programs relating to Indian economic devel-
24 opment, including any such program of the Depart-
25 ment of the Interior, the Small Business Adminis-

1 tration, the Department of Labor, or any other Fed-
2 eral agency charged with Indian economic develop-
3 ment responsibilities.

4 (3) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the duties de-
5 scribed in paragraph (1), the Secretary, acting
6 through the Director, shall ensure the coordination
7 of, or, as appropriate, carry out—

8 (A) Federal programs designed to provide
9 legal, accounting, or financial assistance to eli-
10 gible entities;

11 (B) market surveys;

12 (C) the development of promotional mate-
13 rials;

14 (D) the financing of business development
15 seminars;

16 (E) the facilitation of marketing;

17 (F) the participation of appropriate Fed-
18 eral agencies or eligible entities in trade fairs;

19 (G) any activity that is not described in
20 subparagraphs (A) through (F) that is related
21 to the development of appropriate markets; and

22 (H) any other activity that the Secretary,
23 in consultation with the Director, determines to
24 be appropriate to carry out this section.

1 (4) ASSISTANCE.—In conjunction with the ac-
2 tivities described in paragraph (3), the Secretary,
3 acting through the Director, shall provide—

4 (A) financial assistance, technical assist-
5 ance, and administrative services to eligible en-
6 tities to assist those entities with—

7 (i) identifying and taking advantage
8 of business development opportunities; and

9 (ii) compliance with appropriate laws
10 and regulatory practices; and

11 (B) such other assistance as the Secretary,
12 in consultation with the Director, determines to
13 be necessary for the development of business
14 opportunities for eligible entities to enhance the
15 economies of Indian tribes.

16 (5) PRIORITIES.—In carrying out the duties
17 and activities described in paragraphs (3) and (4),
18 the Secretary, acting through the Director, shall give
19 priority to activities that—

20 (A) provide the greatest degree of eco-
21 nomic benefits to Indians; and

22 (B) foster long-term stable economies of
23 Indian tribes.

24 (6) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not pro-
25 vide under this section assistance for any activity re-

1 (4) the marketing of Indian goods and services;

2 (5) the participation of appropriate Federal
3 agencies or eligible entities in international trade
4 fairs; and

5 (6) any other activity related to the develop-
6 ment of markets for Indian goods and services.

7 (d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In conjunction with
8 the activities described in subsection (c), the Secretary,
9 acting through the Director, shall provide technical assist-
10 ance and administrative services to eligible entities to as-
11 sist those entities with—

12 (1) the identification of appropriate markets for
13 Indian goods and services;

14 (2) entering the markets referred to in para-
15 graph (1);

16 (3) compliance with foreign or domestic laws
17 and practices with respect to financial institutions
18 with respect to the export and import of Indian
19 goods and services; and

20 (4) entering into financial arrangements to pro-
21 vide for the export and import of Indian goods and
22 services.

23 (e) PRIORITIES.—In carrying out the duties and ac-
24 tivities described in subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary,

1 acting through the Director, shall give priority to activities
2 that—

3 (1) provide the greatest degree of economic ben-
4 efits to Indians; and

5 (2) foster long-term stable international mar-
6 kets for Indian goods and services.

7 **SEC. 6. INTERTRIBAL TOURISM DEMONSTRATION**
8 **PROJECTS.**

9 (a) PROGRAM TO CONDUCT TOURISM PROJECTS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
11 through the Director, shall conduct a Native Amer-
12 ican tourism program to facilitate the development
13 and conduct of tourism demonstration projects by
14 Indian tribes, on a tribal, intertribal, or regional
15 basis.

16 (2) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Under the program es-
18 tablished under this section, in order to assist
19 in the development and promotion of tourism
20 on and in the vicinity of Indian lands, the Sec-
21 retary, acting through the Director, shall, in co-
22 ordination with the Under Secretary of Agri-
23 culture for Rural Development, assist eligible
24 entities in the planning, development, and im-
25 plementation of tourism development dem-

1 onstration projects that meet the criteria de-
2 scribed in subparagraph (B).

3 (B) PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—In selecting
4 tourism development demonstration projects
5 under this section, the Secretary, acting
6 through the Director, shall select projects that
7 have the potential to increase travel and tour-
8 ism revenues by attracting visitors to Indian
9 lands and lands in the vicinity of Indian lands,
10 including projects that provide for—

11 (i) the development and distribution
12 of educational and promotional materials
13 pertaining to attractions located on and
14 near Indian lands;

15 (ii) the development of educational re-
16 sources to assist in private and public tour-
17 ism development on and in the vicinity of
18 Indian lands; and

19 (iii) the coordination of tourism-re-
20 lated joint ventures and cooperative efforts
21 between eligible entities and appropriate
22 State and local governments that have ju-
23 risdiction over areas in the vicinity of In-
24 dian lands.

1 (3) GRANTS.—To carry out the program under
2 this section, the Secretary, acting through the Direc-
3 tor, may award grants or enter into other appro-
4 priate arrangements with Indian tribes, tribal orga-
5 nizations, intertribal consortia, or other tribal enti-
6 ties that the Secretary, in consultation with the Di-
7 rector, determines to be appropriate.

8 (4) LOCATIONS.—In providing for tourism de-
9 velopment demonstration projects under the pro-
10 gram under this section, the Secretary, acting
11 through the Director, shall provide for a demonstra-
12 tion project to be conducted—

13 (A) for Indians of the Four Corners area
14 located in the area adjacent to the border be-
15 tween Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mex-
16 ico;

17 (B) for Indians of the northwestern area
18 that is commonly known as the Great North-
19 west (as determined by the Secretary);

20 (C) for the Oklahoma Indians in Okla-
21 homa;

22 (D) for the Indians of the Great Plains
23 area (as determined by the Secretary); and

24 (E) for Alaska Natives in Alaska.

1 (b) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, acting through the
2 Director, shall provide financial assistance, technical as-
3 sistance, and administrative services to participants that
4 the Secretary, acting through the Director, selects to carry
5 out a tourism development project under this section, with
6 respect to—

7 (1) feasibility studies conducted as part of that
8 project;

9 (2) market analyses;

10 (3) participation in tourism and trade missions;

11 and

12 (4) any other activity that the Secretary, in
13 consultation with the Director, determines to be ap-
14 propriate to carry out this section.

15 (c) INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.—The dem-
16 onstration projects conducted under this section shall in-
17 clude provisions to facilitate the development and financ-
18 ing of infrastructure, including the development of Indian
19 reservation roads in a manner consistent with title 23,
20 United States Code.

21 **SEC. 7. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
23 date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
24 the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall pre-
25 pare and submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of

1 the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House
2 of Representatives a report on the operation of the Office.

3 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report prepared
4 under subsection (a) shall include—

5 (1) for the period covered by the report, a sum-
6 mary of the activities conducted by the Secretary,
7 acting through the Director, in carrying out sections
8 4 through 6; and

9 (2) any recommendations for legislation that
10 the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, de-
11 termines to be necessary to carry out sections 4
12 through 6.

13 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
15 as are necessary to carry out this Act, to remain available
16 until expended.

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