

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 264

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should issue an Executive order to promote and expand Federal assistance for Indian institutions of higher education and foster the advancement of the National Education Goals for Indians.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 12), 1994

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. GORTON, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. RIEGLE, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should issue an Executive order to promote and expand Federal assistance for Indian institutions of higher education and foster the advancement of the National Education Goals for Indians.

Whereas the Federal Government has a special trust relationship and a fiduciary duty to Indians;

Whereas the progressive development of policies of the Federal Government with respect to the education of Indians has provided for the establishment, control, and administration by Indian tribes of institutions of higher edu-

cation and other educational institutions on or near Indian reservations;

Whereas Indian institutions of higher education were established pursuant to the Navajo Community College Act (25 U.S.C. 640a et seq.), the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), the Tribally Controlled Vocational Institutions Support Act of 1990 (20 U.S.C. 2397 et seq.), part A of title XIV of the Higher Education Act Amendments of 1986 (20 U.S.C. 4411 et seq.) and the Act of November 2, 1921 (popularly referred to as the “Snyder Act”) (42 Stat. 208, chapter 115; 25 U.S.C. 13) to provide post-secondary educational opportunities to Indian students for whom such opportunities may not otherwise exist;

Whereas as of the date of adoption of this resolution, Indian institutions of higher education have a combined enrollment of more than 16,000 students and serve more than 300 Indian tribes nationwide;

Whereas such institutions are located in 13 States, including Arizona, California, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin;

Whereas Indian institutions of higher education promote tribal sovereignty and self-determination and individual academic achievement;

Whereas, despite the overall improvement of educational opportunities for Indians within the 20-year period preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, Indian institutions of higher education remain severely underfunded and Indians continue to experience the lowest overall at-

tendance rate at institutions of higher education in the United States;

Whereas the lack of Federal assistance for promoting the National Education Goals contained in the Goals 2000: Educate America Act for Indians and the lack of awareness of the successful contributions of tribal colleges to tribal communities and tribal members has frustrated the efforts of Indian institutions of higher education to secure continuing and sufficient funding, staff, and educational resources that are vital to successful academic institutions; and

Whereas, on November 1, 1993, the President issued Executive Order No. 12876, establishing a Presidential Advisory Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and on February 22, 1994, the President issued Executive Order No. 12900 establishing an Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans to advance the National Education Goals contained in the Goals 2000: Educate America Act and increase opportunities for underserved African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans to participate in the benefits of Federal education programs: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the
 2 President should issue an Executive order to promote and
 3 expand Federal assistance for Indian institutions of higher
 4 education and foster the advancement of the National
 5 Education Goals contained in the Goals 2000: Educate
 6 America Act for Indians.

○