



THE NATIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 CALLING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

OVERVIEW

As Congress considers appropriations for programs that impact Native students, it is critical that appropriators hear from tribal leaders, teachers, students, family, and community members. Advocate on behalf of Native students by calling your members of Congress to express your support for fully funding programs that impact Native students in 2018. Members of Congress listen to their constituents and your voices ensure that Native students remain a priority.

WHAT TO EXPECT

NIEA members can contact their Senators or Representative by calling the United States Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. Tell the operator your state and zip code and he or she will tell you your Representative and Senators names. Write down each of the three individuals and then ask to be connected with one of them.

ADVOCATING FOR NATIVE EDUCATION

For your convenience, NIEA has included a sample script for calling your Congressional offices below.

Hello my name is _____ and I am one of *[Senator or Representative's Name]*'s constituents living in _____. I am calling today to express my support for fully funding programs that affect American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students in our schools. My *[students/community/school]* benefits from funding by _____.

The receptionist for your Senator or Representative will ask where you live. Be sure to give them your address or zip code so that they record your opinions on the lists that they keep.

Key Native education programs impacted by the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 include:

- Bureau of Indian Education Schools
- Native Hawaiian Education Program
- Alaska Native Education Equity Assistance Program
- Impact Aid
- Indian Education Formula Grants

If you have any questions, or are willing to let us know that you called your elected officials, please email mdeferranti@niea.org or call 202-847-0039.