HOBBS, STRAUS, DEAN & WALKER LLP

STATUS OF INDIAN-RELATED LEGISLATION – 114th CONGRESS

(as of February 26, 2015)

ISSUE	STATUS	EXPLANATION
CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL:		
H.R. 984, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes, was introduced by Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) on 2/23/15.	2/13/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Similar legislation passed the House in 113 th Congress. A 500-mile forced march from northeast Nebraska to Oklahoma by Ponca tribal members more than 125 years ago could soon be etched into the national consciousness. Rep. Fortenberry plans to the trail Chief Standing Bear and his people took on their way to Oklahoma in 1877. The trail also would commemorate the chief's return to Nebraska and subsequent trial in 1879, when he became the first Native to be recognized as a person in a federal court decision. 'I think this story needs to be told and retold to America," Fortenberry said. "Chief Standing Bear is one of the most important civil rights leaders in our history." Ponca Chief Standing Bear was part of a landmark case that helped determine the rights of Natives. Standing Bear later was the first Native admitted to the Nebraska Hall of Fame. Cosponsors: 1
CHILD CARE:		•
S. 184, the Native American Children's Safety Act, was introduced by Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND) on 1/16/15.	1/16/15-Referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/4/15-Senate Committee on Indian Affairs business meeting to consider S. 184; ordered favorably reported without amendment.	Amends the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to require background checks for all adults living in a potential foster home before foster care placements are ordered in tribal court proceedings.
S. 246, the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act; was introduced by Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/4/15-Senate Committee on Indian Affairs business meeting to consider S. 246; ordered favorably reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.	Cosponsors: 2 1/22/15 - Sen. Heitkamp: " this is a bipartisan bill, as Senator <i>Murkowski</i> from Alaska has joined me in this effort, along with 20 of our colleagues. Our bill aims to address the sweeping challenges that Native Americans face by creating a Federal Commission on Native Children. It would begin a national conversation about the state of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children The commission will be directed to complete a comprehensive study on the programs, grants, and support available for Native children, both at the federal level and on the ground in Native communities." Cosponsors: 23

CHILD TRAFFICKING:		
S.166, the Stop Exploitation Through Trafficking Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. Amy Klobucher (D-MN) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to Committee on the Judiciary. 2/26/15-Committee on the Judiciary business meeting on S. 178 and S. 166.	Sec. 7. Establishing A National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking. (a) (b) Required Contents of National Strategy- The National Strategy shall include the following: (1) Integrated Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases, including (A) the development by each United States attorney, in consultation with State, local, and tribal government agencies, of a district-specific strategic plan to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes; (C) the participation in any Federal, State, local, or tribal human trafficking task force operating in the district of the United States attorney; and (4) An ongoing assessment of the future trends, challenges, and opportunities, including new investigative strategies, techniques, and technologies, that will enhance Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to combat human trafficking. (5) Encouragement of cooperation, coordination, and mutual support between private sector and other entities and organizations and Federal agencies to combat human trafficking, including the involvement of State, local, and tribal government agencies to the extent Federal programs are involved
S. 178, the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) on 1/13/14.	1/13/14-Referred to Committee on the Judiciary. 2/26/15-Committee on the Judiciary business meeting on S. 178 and S. 166.	Cosponsors: 19 Sec. 4. Victim-Centered Child Human Trafficking Deterrence Block Grant Program 'Sec. 203. Victim-Centered Child Human Trafficking Deterrence Block Grant Program '(k) (4) (B) has demonstrated cooperation between Federal, State, local, and, where applicable, tribal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and social service providers in addressing child human trafficking; Sec. 7. Establishing A National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking. (1) (b) Required Contents of National Strategy- The National Strategy shall include the following: (1) Integrated Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases, including(A) the development by each United States attorney, in consultation with State, local, and tribal government agencies, of a district-specific strategic plan to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes; (C) the participation in any Federal, State, local, or tribal human trafficking task force operating in the district of the United States attorney; Sec. 15. Grant Accountability (4) Prohibition on Lobbying Activity (A) (ii) lobby any representative of a Federal, State, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding
H.R. 515, the International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking, introduced by Rep. Christopher Smith (D- NJ) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to Committees on Foreign Affairs and Judiciary. 1/26/15-House passed under suspensions by voice vote.	Cosponsors: 24 Protects children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, and for other purposes. Sec. 3. Definitions (4) Jurisdiction- The term 'jurisdiction' means any of the following:(H) To

H.R.469, the Strengthening Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to Committee on Education and the Workforce. 1/26/15-House considered under suspensions; vote was postponed. 1/27/15-House passed under suspensions by 410-0.	the extent provided in, and subject to the requirements of, section 127 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16927), a federally recognized Indian tribe Cosponsors: 15 Amends the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking, and for other purposes. Sec. 3. Definitions (4) Jurisdiction- The term 'jurisdiction' means any of the following:(H) To the extent provided in, and subject to the requirements of, section 127 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16927), a federally recognized Indian tribe
EDUCATION:		Cosponsors: 60
H.R. 386, the American Indian Teacher Loan Forgiveness Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA) on 1/14/15.	1/14/15-Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.	Provides student loan forgiveness for American Indian educators teaching in local educational agencies with a high percentage of American Indian students. Amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide up to \$17,500 of loan forgiveness to borrowers under the Federal Family Education Loan program or the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan program who: (1) are a member of an Indian tribe, and (2) have been employed as a full-time teacher for five consecutive complete school years in an Indian school or in a local educational agency that serves at least 10 Indian students or whose schools have an enrollment of students at least 25% of which are Indians.
S. Res. 62, a resolution to designate the week beginning February 8, 2015 as "National Tribal Colleges and Universities Week", was introduced by Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) on 2/2/15.	2/2/15-Senate agreed to introduce, consider, and pass H. Res. 62 by unanimous consent without amendment.	Cosponsors: 9 Text: Whereas there are 37 tribal colleges and universities operating on more than 75 campuses in 16 States; Whereas tribal colleges and universities are tribally or federally chartered institutions of higher education and therefore have a unique relationship with the Federal Government; Whereas tribal colleges and universities serve students from more than 250 federally recognized Indian tribes; Whereas tribal colleges and universities offer students access to knowledge and skills grounded in cultural traditions and values, including indigenous languages, which enhance Indian communities and enrich the United States as a whole; Whereas tribal colleges and universities provide access to high quality postsecondary education opportunities for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and other individuals living in some of the most isolated and economically depressed areas in the United States; Whereas tribal colleges and universities are accredited institutions of higher education that effectively prepare students to succeed in their academic pursuits and in a global and highly competitive workforce; Whereas tribal colleges and universities have open enrollment policies, and approximately 20 percent of the students at tribal colleges and universities are non-Indian; and Whereas the collective mission and considerable achievements of tribal colleges and universities deserve national recognition: Now,

		therefore, be it <i>Resolved</i> , That the Senate(1) designates the week beginning on February 8, 2015, as ``National Tribal Colleges and Universities Week"; and (2) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for tribal colleges and universities. Cosponsors: 16
S. 410, the Building upon Unique Indian Learning and Development Act, was introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) on 2/9/15.	2/9/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Sec. 2. In-School Facility Innovation Program Contest. Sec. 3. DOI & DOE Joint Oversight Board. Sec. 4. Improve Support for Teachers & Administrators of Native American Students. Sec. 5. Native American Student Support. Sec. 6. Increased Access to Resources for Tribal Schools, Schools Served by the BIE, and Native American Students. Sec. 7. Funds for Impact Aid. (1) \$750,000,000 for fiscal year 2016; (2) \$750,000,000 for fiscal year 2017; (3) \$750,000,000 for fiscal year 2018. Sec. 8. Forward Funding for Tribal Colleges. For carrying out the following programs, there are authorized to be appropriated \$31,500,000 for fiscal year 2016 which shall become available on July 1, 2016, and shall remain available through September 30, 2017. Sec. 9. Definition of Tribal School. Cosponsors: 1
H.R. 5, the Student Success Act, was introduced by Rep. John Kline (R-MN) on 2/3/15.	2/3/15-Referred to Committees on Education and the Workforce and Financial Services. 2/20/15-Reported, amended, by Committee on Education and the Workforce. H. Rept. 114-24, Part I. 2/26/15-House plans to complete consideration of H.R. 5.	Authorizes FY2016-FY2021 appropriations for the programs under titles I, II, III, IV, and V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by this Act. Title V. The Federal Governments Trust Responsibility to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Education. Revises the programs currently under title VII (Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education) of the ESEA and places them under parts A (Indian Education), B (Alaska Native Education), and C (Native Hawaiian Education) of a new title V. Establishes a new program under subpart 3 (National Activities) of part A requiring the Secretary to award grants to states, LEAs, and Indian entities for: (1) Native American language programs, and (2) Native American language restoration programs. Omits from that subpart programs: (1) funding in-service training for teachers of Indian children, (2) awarding fellowships to Indian students, (3) establishing two centers for gifted and talented Indian students and demonstration projects addressing the needs of such students, and (4) supporting the improvement of educational opportunities for adult Indians. Amends the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act under part B to limit Alaska Native education grant activities to those provided specifically in the context of elementary and secondary education. Amends the Native Hawaiian Education Council. Includes charter schools as eligible recipients of Native Hawaiian Education program grants. Removes the provision of scholarships for undergraduate or graduate studies from the list of authorized grant activities. Title VI. General Provisions for the Act Requires the Secretary to establish a multi-disciplinary peer review team to

	0.05/45 P. S	review requests for waivers of statutory or regulatory requirements under the ESEA. Prohibits the Secretary from imposing new or additional requirements that are not specified in the ESEA on states, LEAs, or Indian tribes in exchange for the receipt of a waiver. Cosponsors: 11
H.R.1082, a bill to strengthen Indian education, and for other purposes, was introduced by Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM) on 2/25/15.	2/25/15-Referred to Committee on Education and the Workforce.	Cosponsors: 2
H.R.1089, a bill to help fulfill the Federal mandate to provide higher educational opportunities for Native American Indians, was introduced by Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO) on 2/25/15.	2/25/15-Referred to Committees on Education and the Workforce and Appropriations.	Rep. Tipton said: "The State of Colorado is currently forced to carry the weight of an unfunded federal mandate, which has created uncertainty for this vital program at Fort Lewis College that satisfies our nation's treaty obligations and ensures that many talented and bright Native American Indian students have the opportunity to get a quality education. Should the state face a budget shortfall, this program could be at risk. Our legislation seeks to address this issue by requiring the federal government to fully live up to its obligation, easing the burden on Colorado taxpayers, and providing certainty for students at Fort Lewis and other impacted institutions." As of fall of 2014, Fort Lewis College had 1,123 Native American Indian students enrolled (30 percent of the student body), from 155 different tribes. In 2014, Colorado paid about \$15 million in tuition reimbursement for qualifying Native American Indian students attending Fort Lewis College. Cosponsors: 11
EMPLOYMENT:		Cosponsors: 11
H.R. 78, the New Chance for a New Start in Life Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) on 1/6/15.	1/6/15-Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.	Directs the Secretary of Labor to make grants to state and local governments and Indian tribes to carry out employment training programs to assist long-term unemployed persons obtain the skills and training to re-enter the workforce and fill jobs in sectors of the economy projected to have the highest rates of demand during the period 2014 through 2024. Prescribes certain grant condition and use requirements. Declares that receiving services or compensation under this Act shall not cause any reduction in the amount of unemployment compensation that an individual is otherwise due.
H.R. 329, the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Cosponsors: 0 Amends the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training, and related services from diverse Federal sources, and for other purposes.
S. 248, Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Cosponsors: 0 Clarifies the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act. Amends the National Labor Relations Act to provide that any enterprise or institution owned and operated by an Indian tribe and located on its lands is not considered an employer (thus excluding such enterprises or institutions from coverage by such Act). Cosponsors: 8

H.R. 511, Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.	Amends the National Labor Relations Act to provide that any enterprise or institution owned and operated by an Indian tribe and located on its lands is not considered an employer (thus excluding such enterprises or institutions from coverage by such Act). Cosponsors: 16
ENERGY:		
S. 209, the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2015, and for other purposes, was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WV) on 1/21/15.	1/21/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/4/15-Senate Committee on Indian Affairs business meeting to consider S. 209; ordered favorably reported without an amendment.	Senators John Barrasso (R-WY) and Jon Tester (D-MT), Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, re-introduced the bipartisan Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2015 (S. 209). The bill will give Indian tribes more tools to develop their energy resources and to remove unnecessary barriers to economic development. "As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, I'm committed to creating new jobs and economic opportunities in Indian Country. One of the best ways to do this is to give Indian tribes greater control of the management and development of their energy resources," said Chairman Barrasso. "For years, Indian tribes have expressed concerns about federal laws and regulations regarding energy development. My bill will help jumpstart tribal energy and economic development by streamlining the approval process and reducing regulatory redtape. This will give folks in Indian Country the tools they need to increase our nation's energy security while creating good paying jobs in their communities." "This bill puts tribes back in control of their energy resources and opens new opportunities for renewable energy," said Vice Chairman Tester. "Streamlining bureaucratic red tape can unleash the potential for tribes to build sustainable, self-governed energy programs that can serve their people and communities. The steps that took tribes years to navigate would only take a few months under this bill, allowing tribes more time to focus on creating a better, energy efficient future."
H.R. 538, the Native American Energy Act, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 1/26/15.	1/26/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Cosponsors: 9 Facilitates the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing Federal regulations that impede tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes. Argument in Favor: Removing restrictions on energy development will lead to more lucrative projects in the U.S. and thus boost the economy and livelihood of Native Americans, who have the right to lease and profit off their own land. Argument Opposed: The country should be focusing on renewable energy, not energy sources that will destroy the environment. In the long-term, this bill makes it easier to drill and harder to enforce renewable energy practices. Cost: \$29.00 Million https://www.countable.us/bills/

S.411, the Natural Gas Gathering Enhancement Act, was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) on 2/9/15.	2/9/15-Referred to Senate committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Authorizes the approval of natural gas pipelines and establish deadlines and expedite permits for certain natural gas gathering lines on Federal land and Indian land The siting of natural gas gathering lines is an especially difficult challenge in states with large amounts of federal land and Indian land. Significant delays in obtaining rights-of-way from the Department of the Interior contribute to unnecessary venting and flaring from oil and gas wells whether or not the wells are located on federal land and Indian land. The Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, has stated that the Department will soon issue new regulations on the venting and flaring of natural gas as part of President Obama's Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions. However, the President's Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions does not include any steps to end the delays in obtaining rights-of-way for natural gas gathering lines on federal land and Indian land. Exempts Indian lands from participation in the new permit process, unless tribal governments explicitly opt-in to the new process. These provisions are in keeping with the federal government's treaty obligations and need for consultation with tribes, critical to building strong federal and tribal governmental relations. Cosponsors: 3
ENVIRONMENTAL:		
H.R. 325, the Pribilof Islands Transition Act Amendments of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Amend the Pribilof Islands Transition Act to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide notice of certification that no further corrective action is required at sites and operable units covered by the Pribilof Islands Environmental Restoration agreement, and for other purposes.
CAMINO.		Cosponsors: 0
GAMING: S. 152, the Keep the Promise Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Prohibits gaming activities on certain Indian land in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts
		Cosponsors: 1
H.R. 308, the Keep the Promise Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Trent Franks (R-AZ) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Prohibits gaming activities on certain Indian lands in Arizona until the expiration of certain gaming compacts.
		Cosponsors: 5
HEALTH:		
H.R. 395, the Indian Health Service Advance Appropriations Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 1/14/15.	1/14/15-Referred to Committees on the Budget, Natural Resources, and Energy and Commerce.	Authorizes IHS through a 2-year appropriations process. The IHS doesn't have automatically approved spending for health care services like the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The agency is regularly plagued by mid-year shortfalls and would likely benefit from a longer-term spending plan. The concept of 2-year funding is already used for selected portions of the veterans' health care program.
		Cosponsors: 1
HOMELAND SECURITY:		
H.R.240, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015, was introduced by Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)	1/9/15-Referred to Committees on Appropriations and the Budget. 1/14/15-House passed 236-191.	Title III. Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery. National Protection and Programs Directorate. Federal Emergency Management

on 1/9/15.	2/26/15- Senate resumes initial debate H.R. 240 which funds DHS but includes language to block President Obama's immigration executive action. Majority Leader McConnell plans to offer a substitute amendment to the House bill to fully fund DHS through the end of fiscal year 2016 without the immigration provisions and then send it back to the House.	Agency. State and Local Programs (5) \$233,000,000 shall be to sustain current operations for training, exercises, technical assistance, and other programs, of which \$162,991,000 shall be for training of State, local, and tribal emergency response providers Title V. General Provisions (including recissions of funds) (4) The memorandum from the Director of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement entitled 'Civil Immigration Enforcement: Guidance on the Use of Detainers in the Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Criminal Justice Systems' dated December 21, 2012.
H.R.399, the Secure Our Borders First Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX) on 1/27/15.	1/27/15-Referred to Committees on Homeland Security, Armed Services, Natural Resources, and Agriculture. 1/21/15- Homeland Security Committee markup; ordered reported amended. 1/27/15-Reported amended. H. Rept. 114-10, Part I.	Cosponsors: 0 Sec. 12. Prohibition on Actions that Impede Border Security on Certain Federal Land (f) Tribal Sovereignty- Nothing in this section supersedes, replaces, negates, or diminishes treaties or other agreements between the United States and Indian tribes. Cosponsors: 29
HOUSING:		
H.R. 360, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Stevan Pearce (R-NM) on 1/14/15.	1/14/15-Referred to Committee on Financial Services.	1/14/15-The National American Indian Housing Council is once again pushing for reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act. NAHASDA first became law in 1996 but it expired in September 2013. A version cleared the House in December 2014 but the Senate failed to take action before the end of the last session of Congress. "Indian Country remains unified in its efforts in Congress, and we are confident that working with our Republican and Democratic friends we will get this legislation enacted early in 2015," NAIHC Chairwoman Sami Jo Difuntorum said today. For more than two years, NAIHC has worked with Rep. Pearce and numerous members of Congress on both sides of the political aisle on this important legislation.
		Cosponsors: 14
IRRIGATION PROJECTS RENOVATION:		
S. 438, the Irrigation Rehabilitation and Renovation for Indian Tribal Governments and Their Economies Act or IRRIGATE Act, was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) on 2/10/15.	2/10/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Provides for the repair, replacement, and maintenance of certain Indian irrigation projects. A 2006 GAO report concluded that there are 16 irrigation projects that were initiated by the Department of the Interior. But the Department did not complete the projects and has made it difficult, if not impossible, for these projects to be self-sustaining. One of the irrigation projects is located on the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. Barrasso's bill ensures the federal government follows through on its promise to build and maintain these projects by providing \$35 million each year from 2015 to 2036 to help cover the costs of operations and maintenance. This includes any structures, facilities, equipment, or vehicles used in connection with the projects. The bill would authorize funding from the revenues in the Reclamation Fund and would also require a longer-term study on the operations of these projects.

VINVOTONE PARTY INC		Cosponsors: 5
S. 1, the Keystone XL Pipeline Act, was introduced by Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND) on 1/6/15.	1/6/15-Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar. 1/16, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27-Considered by Senate. 1/27/15-Cardin Amendment No. 124 (to Amendment No. 2), to clarify that treaties with Indian tribes remain in effect. 1/27/15-Murkowski (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 245 (to Amendment No. 2), to clarify that treaties with Indian tribes remain in effect. At the appropriate place, insert the following: Sec No Effect on Indian Treaties. Nothing in this Act may change, suspend, supersede, or abrogate any trust obligation or treaty requirement of the United States with respect to any Indian nation without consultation with the applicable Indian nation, as required under Executive Order 13175 (67 Fed. Reg. 67249) (November 6, 2000). 1/29/15- Senate adopted Murkowski (for Barrasso) Modified Amendment to clarify that certain consultation requirements with respect to Indian tribes remain in effect. 1/29/15-Senate passed amended 62-36. 2/11/15-House passed 270-152. 2/24/15-Vetoed by President Obama.	Sec. 3. Coordination of Energy Retrofitting Assistance for Schools. (a) (1)(D) a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; (E) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 5212 of the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2511)); and (F) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b))). Sec. 4. Declares that nothing in this Act relieves the United States of its responsibility to consult with Indian nations as required under Executive Order 13175. Sen, Cardin: The bottom line is that for over two centuries, our Nation disregarded the concerns of tribal nations with respect to projects affecting tribal communities. We now have laws and executive orders requiring deliberate and meaningful consultation on any actions taken by the Federal Government that affect tribal interests. This certainly applies to the Keystone pipeline. 2/24/15-Presidential veto: To the Senate of the United States: I am returning herewith without my approval S. 1, the ``Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act." Through this bill, the United States Congress attempts to circumvent longstanding and proven processes for determining whether or not building and operating a cross-border pipeline serves the national interest. The Presidential power to veto legislation is one I take seriously. But I also take seriously my responsibility to the American people. And because this act of Congress conflicts with established executive branch procedures and cuts short thorough consideration of issues that could bear on our national interestincluding our security, safety, and environmentit has earned my veto. Barack Obama. The White House, February 24, 2015.
H.R. 249, a bill to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian tribes, and for other purposes, was introduced by Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) on 1/9/15.	1/9/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), Co-Chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus, has reintroduced legislation that would overturn the Supreme Court's <i>Carcieri v Salazar</i> decision. In <i>Carcieri</i> , the Court ruled that the secretary of the Interior's trust land acquisition authority is limited to those tribes that were under federal jurisdiction at the time of the passage of the <i>Indian Reorganization Act</i> (IRA) of 1934. Since the Court's ruling in 2009, congressional supporters of Indian Country have made enactment of a <i>Carcieri</i> fix a top legislative priority. Restores the Interior Secretary's authority to
S. 175, the. Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act, was introduced by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)	1/13/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	take land into trust for all tribes but would not make any modifications to the Bureau of Indian Affairs' fee-to-trust process. Cosponsors: 9 Provides for certain land to be taken into trust for the benefit of Morongo Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

on 1/13/15.		Cosponsors: 5
H.R. 387, the Economic Development Through Tribal Land Exchange Act, was introduced by Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA) on 1/14/15.	1/14/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Cosponsors: 3
H.R. 407, a bill to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian tribes, was introduced by	1/20/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Carcieri. Cosponsors: 1
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) on 1/20/15. H.R. 487, a bill to allow the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lease or transfer certain lands, was introduced by Rep. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK).	1/22/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources	Sec. 1. Approval Not Required to Validate Land Transactions. (a) In General-Notwithstanding any other provision of law, without further approval, ratification, or authorization by the United States, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma may lease, sell, convey, warrant, or otherwise transfer all or any part of its interests in any real property that is not held in trust by the United States for the benefit of such tribe. (b) Trust Land Not Affected-Nothing in this section shall(1) authorize the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lease, sell, convey, warrant, or otherwise transfer all or any part of an interest in any real property that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of such tribe; or (2) affect the operation of any law governing leasing, selling, conveying, warranting, or otherwise transferring any interest in such trust land.
H.R. 521, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation located in Bethel, Alaska, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK).	1/22/15-Referred to the Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and Commerce.	1/26/15-The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to announce its approval of genetically engineered (GE) salmon any day now. To make matters worse, FDA argues that these GE salmon don't even need to be labeled. In response to FDA's imminent approval, Congress is taking action. Senator Mark Begich (D-Alaska) and Representative Don Young (R-Alaska) recently introduced bipartisan legislation in Congress that would ban GE fish and require mandatory labeling for consumers. Endorsed by 64 consumer, worker, religious and environmental groups, along with commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries associations, food businesses and retailers—including the Center for Food Safety, Ocean Conservancy, Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development, the Alaska Trollers Association, Food and Water Watch, the National Cooperative Grocers Association and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations among others—who know that the approval of GE salmon would represent a serious threat to the survival of native salmon populations, many of which have already suffered severe declines related to salmon farms and other man-made impacts. Wild Atlantic salmon are already on the Endangered Species List in the U.S.; approving these GE Atlantic salmon could be the final blow to these wild stocks. Additionally, the human health impacts of eating GE fish are entirely unknown. If GE salmon are approved, these fish must be labeled so people can make informed choices.
S. 230, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation located in Bethel, Alaska, was introduced by Sen.	1/21/15-Referred to senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/25/15- SCIA favorably reported S. 230, S. 321, and S. 501.	

Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) on 1/21/15.		Cosponsors: 0
LAND RIGHTS:		
H.R. 328, the American Indian Empowerment Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 1/13/15.	1/13/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Empowers federally recognized Indian tribes to accept restricted fee tribal lands, and for other purposes.
		Cosponsors: 0
H.R. 482, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA) on 1/22/15.	1/22/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	The lands included in this expansion contain important and unique archaeological resources showing the use of this area for over 12,000 years. Support for this expansion throughout Georgia and across the country including the Muskogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma. Ocmulgee National Monument move significantly closer to becoming a national park and expand the park's acreage from about 700 acres to more than 2,000 acres.
MIAMI TRIBE OF		Cosponsors: 1
OKLAHOMA:		
H.R. 533, a bill to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes, was introduced by Rep. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) on 1/26/15.	1/26/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Accepts the request of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to revoke the charter of incorporation issued to that tribe and ratified by its members on June 1, 1940. Cosponsors: 2
S. 321, a bill to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes, was introduced by Rep. James Lankford (R-OK) on 1/29/15.	1/29/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/25/15- SCIA favorably reported S. 230, S. 321, and S. 501.	"Outdated laws and regulations hold communities back all around Oklahoma," said Lankford. "This federal corporate charter is unused by the Tribe, and yet its existence raises concerns for prospective business partners due to restrictive conditions within the charter. Taking the federal charter off the books eliminates uncertainty for these partners and ensures that the Tribe is free to pursue new opportunities that will benefit the community now and for years to come."
RECOGNITION:		Cosponsors. 0
S. 35, the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) on 1/6/15.	1/6/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Extends federal recognition to the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana. Makes the Tribe and each member eligible for all services and benefits provided by the United States to Indians and federally recognized Indian tribes, without regard to the existence of a reservation for the Tribe or the location of the residence of any member on or near an Indian reservation. Considers the federal service area of the Tribe to be the area comprised of Blaine, Cascade, Glacier, and Hill Counties, Montana. Directs the Tribe, as a condition of receiving recognition, services, and benefits pursuant to this Act, to submit to the Secretary of the Interior a membership roll consisting of the name of each individual enrolled as a member of the Tribe. Requires the Tribe to maintain such membership roll. Directs the Secretary to acquire, for the benefit of the Tribe, trust title to 200 acres of land within the Tribe's service area to be used for a tribal land base. 1/9/15-Sen. Tester said: "Congress has a trust responsibility to our nation's tribes, and that responsibility should extend to Montana's Little Shell. Their federal recognition will strengthen all of Indian Country and help us live up to the promises we've made."

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H.R. 286, the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Ryan Zinke (R- MT) on 1/12/15.	1/12/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.	Cosponsors: 1 Cosponsors: 0
H.R. 184, the Lumbee Recognition Act, was introduced by Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC) on 1/7/14.	1/7/15-Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources Committee.	Extends federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of NC, which makes its members eligible for the services and benefits provided to Indians because of their status as members of a federally recognized tribe. Deems members of the Tribe residing in Robeson, Cumberland, Hoke, and Scotland Counties in NC to be within the delivery area for such services. Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for the Tribe. Prohibits the Tribe from conducting gaming activities. Requires NC to exercise jurisdiction over all criminal offenses committed, and all civil actions that arise, on NC lands owned by, or held in trust for, the Lumbee Tribe or any dependent Indian community of the Tribe. 1/8/5-Rep. Hudson said: "Southeastern North Carolina has made tremendous strides in economic growth, and granting the Lumbees federal recognition has the potential to spur job creation and further revitalize the region to make life better for everyone in our community".
H.R. 872, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA) on 2/11/15.	2/11/15-Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.	Extends Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe. Cosponsors: 3
S. 465, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2015, was introduced by Sen. Kaine (D- VA) on 2/11/15. "REDSKINS" NAME OR	2/11/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Cosponsors: 1
LOGO:		
H.R.684, the Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act," was introduced by Rep. Michael Honda (D-CA) on 2/3/15.	2/3/15-Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary.	Amends the Trademark Act of 1946 regarding the disparagement of Native American persons or peoples through marks that use the term "redskin", and for other purposes. Rep. Honda: "It is unbelievable to me that, in the 21st century, a prominent NFL franchise is calling itself by a racial slur," Honda said in a release. "Allowing trademark protection of this word is akin to the government approving its use. Removing that trademark will send a clear message that this name is not acceptable." Cosponsors: 30
SMALL BUSINESS:		Cosponsors, 30
H.R.527, the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015, was introduced by Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH) on 1/26/15.	1/26/15-Referred to Committees on the Judiciary and Small Business. 1/27/15-Committee on Judiciary	Sec. 2. Clarification and Expansion of Rules Covered by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (d) Inclusion of Rules Affecting Tribal Organizations- Paragraph (5) of section 601 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting `and tribal

	held markup and ordered reported. 2/2/15-Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 114-12, Part I.	organizations (as defined in section 4(1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(1))),' after `special districts,'. Cosponsors: 21
SELF-DETERMINATION:		
S. 209, the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2015, and for other purposes, was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WV) on 1/21/15.	1/21/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/4/15-SCIA ordered reported without amendment.	SCIA Chairman Barrasso: "Tribes have the potential to contribute to our nation's energy security. This bill will tap into that potential. This legislation will cut the bureaucratic red-tape and let tribes develop their energy resources – putting their destiny back into their hands and not the Federal Government. See "ENERGY."
S. 286, the Department of the Interior Self-Governance Act of 2015, and for other purposes, was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WV) on 1/28/15.	1/28/15-Referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/4/15-Senate Committee on Indian Affairs business meeting to consider S. 286; ordered favorably reported without an amendment.	SCIA Chairman Barrasso: "This bill has been around in some form or another since at least the 108th Congress. It is intended to improve the process for negotiating, reviewing, and approving tribal compacts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. These compacts are key mechanisms for tribal administration of Indian programs. This bill would reduce Federal bureaucracy and promote local control and accountability."
TAX RELATED:		
S. 536, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income payments under the Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program and certain amounts received under the Indian Health Professions Scholarship Program, was introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) on 2/24/15.	2/24/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Finance.	Cosponsors: 1
TRUST ASSET		
MANAGEMENT REFORM: H.R. 812, the Indian Trust Asset Reform Act, was introduced by Rep. Michael Simpson (R-ID) on 2/9/15.	2/9/15-Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.	Provides for Indian trust asset management reform. Title I. Recognition of Trust Responsibility. Title II. Indian Trust Asset Management Demonstration Project Act. Title III. Restructuring Office of the Special Trustee. Cosponsors: 3
S. 383, a bill to provide for Indian trust asset management reform, and for other purposes, introduced by Sen Mike Crapo (R-ID) on 2/5/15.	2/5/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.	Cosponsors: 1
WATER:		
S. 501, the New Mexico Navajo Water Settlement Technical Corrections Act, was introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) on	2/12/15-Referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. 2/25/15- SCIA favorably reported	Makes technical corrections to the Navajo water rights settlement in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes,
2/12/15.	S. 230, S. 321, and S. 501.	Cosponsors: 1

Hearings:

Business Meeting on S. 178 and S. 166
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
February 26, 2015
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
2:30pm

The Committee will conduct a business meeting to consider S. 178, to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, S. 166, to stop exploitation through trafficking, and the nominations of Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be Attorney General, Michelle K. Lee, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alfred H. Bennett, George C. Hanks, Jr., and Jose Rolando Olvera, Jr., each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Jill N. Parrish, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, and Nancy B. Firestone, of Virginia, Thomas L. Halkowski, of Pennsylvania, Patricia M. McCarthy, of Maryland, Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, and Armando Omar Bonilla, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

Hearing on Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education Budget

House Interior Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

February 27, 2015

B-308 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00am

Witnesses: Panel 1: The Honorable Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior;

Charles "Monty" Roessel, Director, Bureau of Indian Education, Department of the Interior; Michael Black, Director,

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior

Panel 2: Melissa Emrey-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office

Legislative Hearing on S. 438, the IRRIGATE Act

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

March 4, 2015

628 Dirksen Senate Office Building

2:30pm

Legislative Hearing on S. 438, the Irrigation Rehabilitation and Renovation for Indian Tribal Governments and Their Economies Act, the IRRIGATE Act.

Hearing on Nomination to consider Jonodey Osceola Chaudhuri, of Arizona, to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

March 11, 2015

628 Dirksen Senate Office Building

2:30pm

Nomination Hearing to consider the President's nomination of Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri, of Arizona, to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission for the term of three years. He currently serves as the vice chairman and associate commissioner of NIGC. Chaudhuri, whose mother was a Native American, is a graduate of Dartmouth College with a law degree from Cornell Law School. He was previously senior counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior from 2012 to 2013. He has also served on Native American courts: as an Associate Judge on the Puyallup Tribe of Nations Court from 2011 to 2012, an Appellate Judge on the San Manuel Mission Band of Indians Appeals Court from 2009 to 2012, and an Appellate Judge on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court from 2006 to 2012. Prior to becoming a judge, he served as a deputy public defender in the Maricopa County Public Defender's Office from 2010 to 2011. He also ran his own law firm Chaudhuri Law Office, P.L.L.C, where he was managing attorney from 2006 to 2010.



Hearings for Public Witnesses on FY 2016 Funding for Indian Programs under its Jurisdiction (primarily BIA/BIE/IHS)
House Interior Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
March 24 and 25, 2015
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
9:00am and 1:00pm

Hearing on American Indian and Alaska Native Public and Outside Witnesses
House Interior Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
March 24, 2015
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
9:00am and 1:00pm

Hearing on American Indian and Alaska Native Public and Outside Witnesses
House Interior Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
March 25, 2015
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
9:00am and 1:00pm

Executive Communications:

EC-328. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2015; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-329. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Land Acquisitions in the State of Alaska" (RIN1076-AF23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2015; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-387. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2014-15 Late Season" (RIN1018-AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-580. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Indian Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2013 Report to Congress Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 450j-1(c) on the Funding Requirements for Contract Support Costs"; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

262. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule -- Land Acquisitions in the State of Alaska [K00103 14/15 A3A10; 134D0102DR-DS5A300000-DR.5A311.IA000115] (RIN: 1076-AF23) received January 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

290. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule -- Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program; Limited Liability for Noncoal Reclamation by Certified

States and Indian Tribes [Docket ID: OSM-2012-0010; S1D1S SS08011000 SX066A00067F 134S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX066A00 33F 13XS501520] received January 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources

Nominations Received by the Senate:

1/8/15 - Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri, of Arizona, to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission for the term of three years