

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 2, 2014

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

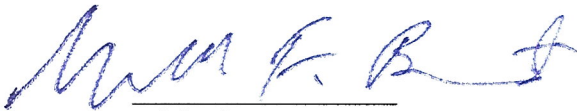
Dear President Obama:

We write to encourage the White House to conduct a ceremony to celebrate the passage and signing of the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act. This bipartisan measure passed the Senate in late September and was signed into law on September 26th. The legislation is widely supported by hundreds of Native nations including the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes in Colorado. Given the significance of this law to Indian Country, we believe that it is appropriate to ceremonially highlight its enactment.

The Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act is the result of many years of hard work, support, and advocacy efforts by Tribal leaders, Native nations, and Tribal organizations. The legislation received wide bipartisan support in Congress, passing the House by voice vote and securing 25 Republican and Democratic co-sponsors in the Senate before passing by unanimous consent. The Act, which clarifies that certain tribal benefits are not subject to taxation, has been lauded as a crucial step toward improving sovereignty of our nation's tribes. A ceremony, perhaps in association with the Annual White House Tribal Nations Conference, would serve to highlight the passage of this historic legislation and its many benefits to all Indian nations and tribes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet  
US Senator



Mark Udall  
US Senator