

# STRENGTHENING OUR NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES ACT

**\*\*Whereas,\*\*** communities on Native American Reservations are plagued by poverty,

**\*\*Whereas,\*\*** tribal leadership has become increasingly corrupt with each passing year,

**\*\*Whereas,\*\*** the Bureau of Indian Affairs has done very little to efficiently fix these issues,

*\*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,\**

## **\*\*SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.\*\***

This act may be cited as the “Strengthening Our Native American Communities Act”

## **\*\*SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS\*\***

(a) RESERVATION.— Any of the current Indian Reservations served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs

(b) BIA.— An acronym for the Bureau of Indian Affairs

## **\*\*SEC. 3. REFORMING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS\*\***

(a) SEPARATE ENTITY. — The Bureau of Indian Affairs will become its own separate cabinet level department.

(1) This department will be known as the Department of Native American Relations (DoNAR), the main purpose of which will be to oversee the transfer the ownership of federally owned Reservation land to Tribal Governments, to provide Native American families in poverty with a basic income until they are out of poverty, to provide a community learning center on each reservation that will give volunteer taught classes on budgeting, entrepreneurship, and tribal culture and history, and to assist in relations between Native American families, tribal governments, and the Federal Government of the United States of America.

(2) Indian Reservations will henceforth be called Tribal Homelands.

(3) This department will receive an annual budget of \$2,762,400,000.

(4) The term Indian in all government and DoNAR proceedings will henceforth be discontinued, replacing it with the term Native American or by the name of the tribe.

**\*\*SEC. 4. TRANSFERING LAND OWNERSHIP.\*\***

(a) LAND OWNERSHIP. — All land on Tribal Homelands that is owned by the Federal Government of the United States of America will have ownership transferred to tribal governments, whom will do with the land what they see fit.

(b) TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTERS — Each Tribal Homeland will have a Tribal Community Center, which will be ran by the DoNAR. The Community Centers will have volunteer taught classes centered on budgeting, entrepreneurship, tribal culture and history, and any other issues that communities find to be important. This will foster a sense of cultural pride, economic independence, and a way to help lift Native Americans out of poverty. If there are not enough volunteers for these classes, then the DoNAR will provide teachers for these classes. These classes will not be mandatory.

**\*\*SEC. 5. COMBATING POVERTY AND CORRUPTION\*\***

(a) BASIC INCOME WELFARE — DoNAR will provide a Basic Income Welfare to individuals and to families based on household income levels. They shall receive this money based off of poverty line levels as determined by the United States Census Bureau. This income will be given to these individuals and families until they have enough money to be out of poverty.

(b) COMBATING TRIBAL CORRUPTION — To combat recent cases of tribal leadership embezzling money that is supposed to go towards the betterment of the community, Basic Income Welfare to impoverished families will be paid directly to families and individuals, and any programs created by the DoNAR that gives money will have to go to directly to those it is helping, not Tribal Government.

(c) TRIBAL ECONOMIC AREAS — A Tribal Economic Area will be any county, city, or municipality located on a Tribal Homeland. Special exceptions will be given to these areas, so that Native American economies will be able to prosper. These areas will have

- (i) Federal Personal income taxes reduced to a level of 0%
- (ii) Federal Corporate Income Taxes will be reduced to the same 0%.
- (iii) The Capital Gains Tax will be suspended all Tribal Economic Areas.
- (iv) Payroll taxes will be reduced to 2% for both employer and employee.

**\*\*SEC. 6. INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE ASSISTANCE NOT DISQUALIFIED FROM HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.\*\***

(a) [Section 223\(c\)\(1\) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986](#) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) Special rule for individuals eligible for assistance under indian health service programs. -- For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), an individual shall not be treated as covered under a health plan described in such subparagraph merely because the individual receives hospital care or medical services under a medical care program of the Indian Health Service or of a tribal organization.”

(b) Effective Date. - - the amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019.

**\*\*SEC. 7. ENACTMENT\*\***

(a) Enactment.—This act shall take effect 1 month after its passage into law.

**This bill is authored by Congressman TeamEhmling (R-US) and sponsored by Congressmen Melp8836 (R-US), Senators ChaoticBrilliance (R-WS), A\_Cool\_Prussian (BM-CH)**