



National  
Congress of  
American  
Indians

# NCAI Legislative Update – March 25, 2022 For the Tribal/Interior Budget Council



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## FY 2022 Omnibus Tribal Topline

- \$2.264 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (+\$104.1 million), with:
  - \$297.68 million for Criminal Investigations and Police Services (+76.62 million)
  - \$31.97 million for Tribal Climate Resilience (+\$15 million)
  - \$5 million for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Initiative
  - \$7 million to implement the Native boarding school initiative
- \$1.281 billion for the Bureau of Indian Education (+\$44.6 million)
- \$6.631 billion for the Indian Health Service (+\$394.7 million)
- \$1.002 billion for the HUD Native American Programs (+\$177.1 million)
- \$638.224 million for the Tribal Transportation Program, Transit Program, and Facility Bridges tribal set-aside (+\$98.22 million, subject to Obligation Limitation)
- \$295.65 million for Tribal programs at the Department of Justice
- \$58 million for the Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (+\$36 million)

\*\*\*This is not intended to represent all tribal spending in the Omnibus, but is a feature of IA, IHS, HUD, DOJ, DOT, and DOE



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## Fish vs Fishing Lessons

- Every Regular Appropriations law comes with a Joint Explanatory Statement (JES).
  - Appropriations laws have a lot of information, but not ALL of the information on spending.
  - Joint Explanatory Statements have written guidance, directives to the Executive Branch, and funding breakout tables that compare last year's enacted to the current year's President's Budget Request to current year enacted.
    - Even better, the tables include the change amount already calculated for you.
- Here is a link to every JES for the FY 2022 Omnibus: <https://docs.house.gov/floor/Default.aspx?date=2022-03-07>
  - The JES for BIA, BIE, BTFA, IHS, EPA, and USDA Forest Service is [Division G](#).
- Use CTRL+F in your web browser and search for: Tribe, Tribal, Indian, Native, Alaska, and Alaskan; or your favorite program or agency of interest.
- [Congress.gov](#) also includes a special page for [Appropriations Status Tables](#).
  - You can find all of the appropriations bill text, Committee Reports (includes JES), AND information on Budget Resolutions for FYs 1999-2022.



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## For the Tribal/Interior Budget Council

### A Bit on Congressional Relations

- Each year, Appropriations Committees seek Written and sometimes verbal testimony from the public.
- However, Budget Committees in each Chamber develop a Budget Resolution, which guides total government spending, including limitations on mandatory and discretionary spending (including switching accounts from discretionary to mandatory), any “Budget Reconciliation” supplemental spending, and which accounts may be newly-granted Advance Appropriations.
- Authorizing Committees in Congress and even individual members get a chance to weigh in on Congressional Appropriations through “views and estimates reports” from Committees, and member requests from individual members.
  - Member requests are different than Congressionally Directed Spending (earmarks). So, if your representative directs you to their earmarks form or submission portal, tell them you want them to submit a member request for the whole budget and not an earmark for just your Tribe.
- So, who do I contact to fix these funding issues?
  - Here are links to the [Senate Budget Committee Roster](#) and the [House Budget Committee Roster](#).
  - Here is a link to House Appropriations Committee [Written Testimony Instructions](#).
  - Senate Appropriations Committee instructions are behind a “submit Written Testimony” button for each [Subcommittee](#) (as of March 25, 2022, there are no FY 2023 submission instructions published).



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**Tyler Scribner, Policy Lead – Federal Revenue and Appropriations**  
**[tscribner@NCAI.org](mailto:tscribner@NCAI.org)**