

## S 2160

### Native American Children's Safety Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Native Americans

**Introduced:** Mar 26, 2014

**Current Status:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-324.

**Latest Action:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-324. (Apr 2, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2160>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Mar 26, 2014
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Mar 26, 2014
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 26, 2014
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Apr 28, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Apr 2, 2014

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Native Americans

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 4534	Identical bill	Dec 22, 2014: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 530.

Native American Children's Safety Act - Amends the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (Act) to prohibit any foster care placement over which an Indian tribe has exclusive jurisdiction from being ordered until the tribal social services agency: (1) completes an investigation of the character of each covered individual who resides in the household or is employed at the institution in which the foster care placement will be made, and (2) concludes that each of those individuals meets the standards of character the tribe is required to establish.

Defines a "covered individual" as an adult and any other individual the tribe determines is subject to such character investigation.

Requires the tribal social services agency, as part of those investigations, to: (1) perform criminal records checks, including fingerprint-based checks of national crime information databases; (2) check any child abuse and neglect registry maintained by the state in which the individual resides; and (3) request any other state in which the individual resided during the preceding five years to allow the agency to check its registry.

Prohibits a foster care placement from being ordered if the investigation reveals that the covered individual: (1) has been found guilty by a federal, state, or tribal court of a felony involving child abuse or neglect, spousal abuse, a crime against a child, violence, or drugs; or (2) is listed on a child abuse and neglect registry in the state where the individual resides or resided within the preceding five years.

Exempts emergency foster care placements from such requirements.

Requires each Indian tribe to establish procedures to recertify homes or institutions in which foster care placements are made.

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate a regulation establishing: (1) procedures for investigating the character of any covered individual who resides in the home or is employed at the institution in which the child is placed after the investigations that preceded that placement occurred, (2) self-reporting requirements for foster care homes or institutions that have knowledge that a covered individual residing on their premises would fail the character investigation, (3) procedures and guidelines for emergency foster care placements, and (4) procedures for certifying compliance with the Act.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 2, 2014:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-324.
- **Mar 26, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 26, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.