

S 1928

NEST Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Aug 4, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute

Latest Action: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably. (Apr 27, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1928>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 2, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Markup By	Apr 27, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5700	Related bill	Sep 19, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
114 S 2190	Related bill	Oct 21, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Native Educator Support and Training Act or the NEST Act

This bill amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish scholarships, loan forgiveness plans, and training programs for educators who commit to teaching in Native American or Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools.

This bill establishes three scholarship programs for students who are seeking degrees in education or school administration at institutions of higher education and commit to teaching in Native American or BIE schools:

- the Indian Student Educator Scholarship Program for students seeking degrees,
- the Indian Educator Scholarship Program for Indian students seeking degrees, and
- the Indian Educator Graduate Fellowship Program for Indian students seeking graduate degrees.

Recipients of the scholarships must commit to working for a BIE school, a school serving Native Americans, or other specified schools and agencies for the greater of three years or the number of school years that the scholarship funded.

The bill establishes loan forgiveness programs for educators and Native Americans who have taught for at least five consecutive years at BIE schools or local educational agencies with high percentages of Native American students.

The bill extends the federal Perkins Loan Cancellation Program to educators teaching in BIE schools or in Native American language immersion programs.

The bill authorizes professional development grants for native-serving elementary and secondary schools. It also establishes the Native American Language Teacher Training Program to provide grants for institutions of higher education to develop training programs for Native American immersion and language teachers.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 27, 2016:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Nov 18, 2015:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-192.
- **Aug 4, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 4, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.