

S 1853

BADGES for Native Communities Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Jun 13, 2019

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 476.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 476. (Jun 4, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1853>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 13, 2019
Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jun 13, 2019
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jun 13, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 13, 2019
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 13, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 4, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 2920	Related bill	Nov 21, 2019: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 308.
116 HR 4289	Related bill	Sep 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring Safety for Native Communities Act or the BADGES for Native Communities Act

This bill modifies policies and procedures related to information sharing, reporting, and investigating cases of missing, unidentified, or murdered Indians.

Among other elements, the bill requires the Department of Justice to

- share information, after receiving certain permission, with the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) on missing persons, unclaimed remains, and unidentified remains;
- ensure that technical assistance and training are provided to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and tribal law enforcement agencies to utilize the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and other national databases;
- establish the Tribal Civil and Criminal Information Access Program to enhance the ability of tribal governments to access, enter information into, and obtain information from federal criminal information databases;
- establish a grant program for specified entities (e.g., tribes) to implement changes to enhance their responses to missing person cases and death investigations of interest to tribes; and
- work with the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that federal training resources and culturally appropriate mental health and wellness programs are available to tribal and BIA law enforcement officers experiencing occupational stress.

The bill expands access to (1) the national crime information database for NamUs, and (2) the NCIC for each tribal justice official.

Finally, the Department of the Interior must establish a five-year demonstration program for the purpose of conducting or adjudicating personnel background investigations for applicants for law enforcement positions in the BIA.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 4, 2020:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Reported by Senator Hoeven with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 116-230.
- **Jun 4, 2020:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 476.
- **Dec 11, 2019:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 19, 2019:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-67.
- **Jun 13, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 13, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.