

S 3666

COVID–19 DISASTER in Indian Country Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: May 7, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (May 7, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3666>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 7, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8200	Related bill	Sep 14, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
116 HR 6819	Related bill	May 12, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

COVID-19 Designation of Immediate Special Authority of Spectrum for Tribes' Emergency Response in Indian Country Act or the COVID-19 DISASTER in Indian Country Act

This bill grants emergency special temporary authority and provides funds to deploy wireless broadband service on tribal lands and Hawaiian home lands.

Specifically, the bill directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to grant emergency special temporary authority to Indian tribes, certain tribal entities, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands if they request such authority to use electromagnetic spectrum to provide wireless broadband service over tribal lands or Hawaiian home lands. The FCC must grant such emergency authority within 10 days of receiving a request.

In addition, the bill provides funds to specified Department of Agriculture grant programs for (1) immediate deployment of wireless broadband service on tribal lands and Hawaiian home lands, including repairs to damaged infrastructure and backhaul costs; and (2) technical assistance and training.

Actions Timeline

- **May 7, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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