

HR 6819

COVID–19 DISASTER in Indian Country Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: May 12, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (May 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6819>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]

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

Cosponsors (21 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3] | D · OR | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1] | D · HI | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4] | R · OK | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1] | D · WA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2] | D · HI | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7] | D · AZ | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3] | D · AZ | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Horn, Kendra S. [D-OK-5] | D · OK | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2] | D · CA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7] | D · WA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6] | D · WA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33] | D · CA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4] | D · MN | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40] | D · CA | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9] | D · FL | | May 12, 2020 |
| Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8] | D · PA | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4] | D · OR | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4] | D · IL | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10] | D · WA | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4] | D · NV | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Torres Small, Xochitl [D-NM-2] | D · NM | | May 15, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred To | May 12, 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 S 3666 | Related bill | May 7, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. |

Summary (as of May 12, 2020)

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

No actions are recorded for this bill.