

S 2695

Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Jul 27, 2023

Current Status: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.

Latest Action: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably. (Sep 18, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2695>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK]	R · OK		Jul 27, 2023
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Nov 7, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Nov 13, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 30, 2023
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 1, 2024
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 17, 2024
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Sep 18, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Markup By	Sep 18, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 4524	Related bill	Oct 25, 2024: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 118-718, Part I.

Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act

This bill treats certain tribal law enforcement officers as federal law enforcement officers under specified circumstances.

Specifically, the bill authorizes the law enforcement officers of any Indian tribe that has contracted or compacted any or all federal law enforcement functions through a contract or compact entered into pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to enforce federal law within the tribe's jurisdiction if those officers meet certain qualifications. These qualifications include completing training and passing an adjudicated background investigation.

Further, the bill deems a tribal law enforcement officer who is acting under an authorized contract or compact as a federal law enforcement officer for the purposes of certain federal laws, including for injury and death, retirement, and pension benefits.

The Department of the Interior must (1) develop procedures for credentialing tribal officers to confirm these officers meet minimum certification standards and training requirements for Indian country peace officers, and (2) issue guidance to implement this bill.

The bill also requires the Department of Justice to coordinate and provide oversight for its functions and programs to ensure a coordinated approach for public safety in Indian communities.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 18, 2024:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **May 1, 2024:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 118-406.
- **Jul 27, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 27, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.