

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4516

To require officers and employees of the Department of Homeland Security to receive training with respect to Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 13, 2026

Mr. LUJÁN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require officers and employees of the Department of Homeland Security to receive training with respect to Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Respect Tribal IDs
5 Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING**
2 **STANDARDS FOR IMMIGRATION ENFORCE-**
3 **MENT PERSONNEL.**

4 Section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
5 (8 U.S.C. 1357) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(i)(1) Not later than 180 days after the date of the
8 enactment of the Respect Tribal IDs Act of 2026, the Sec-
9 retary of Homeland Security, in collaboration with the Bu-
10 reau of Indian Affairs and in consultation with representa-
11 tives of Indian tribes, shall develop training curricula for
12 all immigration enforcement officers and employees of the
13 Department of Homeland Security with respect to—

14 “(A) appropriate protocol for interacting with
15 any enrolled member of an Indian tribe;

16 “(B) how to identify a Native American tribal
17 document;

18 “(C) accepting a Native American tribal docu-
19 ment as proof of United States citizenship;

20 “(D) how to access examples of Native Amer-
21 ican tribal documents; and

22 “(E) the Indian trust responsibility of the
23 United States Government.

24 “(2) The curricula developed pursuant to paragraph
25 (1) shall include—

1 “(A) the contact information, names, locations,
2 and Native American tribal document formats of all
3 Indian tribes in the region where an officer or em-
4 ployee will perform duties relating to the enforce-
5 ment of the immigration laws;

6 “(B) scenario-based exercises;

7 “(C) the development of a database with exam-
8 ples of Native American tribal documents;

9 “(D) pre-training and post-training assess-
10 ments; and

11 “(E) training regarding the history of the
12 granting to American Indians of United States citi-
13 zenship and the trust responsibilities of the United
14 States Government.

15 “(3) An officer or employee of the Department of
16 Homeland Security may not perform any duty relating to
17 the enforcement of the immigration laws unless such offi-
18 cer or employee—

19 “(A) has completed the training curricula devel-
20 oped pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to the
21 region to which such officer or employee has been
22 assigned; and

23 “(B) has completed retraining on such curricula
24 not less than annually.

1 “(4) Not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-
2 ment of the Respect Tribal IDs Act of 2026, the Secretary
3 of Homeland Security shall submit a report on the devel-
4 opment and implementation of the training curricula re-
5 quired under this subsection to—

6 “(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
7 Senate;

8 “(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and
9 Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

10 “(C) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the
11 Senate;

12 “(D) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
13 House of Representatives;

14 “(E) the Committee on Homeland Security of
15 the House of Representatives; and

16 “(F) the Committee on Natural Resources of
17 the House of Representatives.

18 “(5) In this subsection—

19 “(A) the term ‘Indian tribe’ has the meaning
20 given such term in section 102 of the Federally Rec-
21 ognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C.
22 5130); and

23 “(B) the term ‘Native American tribal docu-
24 ment’ includes—

1 “(i) Native American tribal cards issued
2 pursuant to section 7209 of the Intelligence Re-
3 form and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004
4 (Public Law 108–458; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note);

5 “(ii) documentary evidence issued by an
6 Indian tribe, including any Indian tribe located
7 in a State that has an international border,
8 which—

9 “(I) identifies the Indian tribe that
10 issued the document;

11 “(II) identifies the individual by
12 name; and

13 “(III) confirms the individual’s mem-
14 bership, enrollment, or affiliation with the
15 Indian tribe; and

16 “(IV) includes—

17 “(aa) a tribal enrollment card;

18 “(bb) a certificate of degree of
19 Indian blood;

20 “(cc) a tribal census document;
21 and

22 “(dd) a document on tribal let-
23 terhead, issued under the signature of
24 the appropriate tribal official, that

1 meets the requirements of subclauses
2 (I) through (III); and
3 “(iii) any other document approved by the
4 Secretary of Homeland Security as confirming
5 United States citizenship.”.

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