

Greetings,

I am writing in support of H.R. 5444 the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act.

As an American citizen who has lived his entire life on land stolen from Native peoples, the need for justice toward Natives is clear. Boarding schools for Natives is one in a long line of policies designed to disenfranchise and exterminate the indigenous peoples of this land. Surfacing the truths behind the policy are a necessary if not sufficient part of bringing justice, along with returning land (#LandBack), improving public health and addressing economic disparities, some of which should involve supporting the restoration of traditional tribal economies.

Please pass H.R. 5444 as well as a portfolio of efforts to support Natives in healing lives and livelihoods. The federal government has a special role to play, given nation-to-nation trust responsibilities and given the U.S. government was historically the primary instigator of injustice.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and thank you to the Natural Resources Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.

David Jaber  
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