

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4188

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish the Native American Language Vitalization and Training Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 16, 2019

Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. GABBARD, and Mr. CASE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish the Native American Language Vitalization and Training Program.

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 “Native American Lan-  
5 guage Vitalization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE VITALIZATION AND**  
2 **TRAINING PROGRAM.**

3 Part A of title III of the Higher Education Act of  
4 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1057 et seq.) is amended by inserting  
5 after section 316 (20 U.S.C. 1059c) the following:

6 **“SEC. 316A. NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE VITALIZATION**  
7 **AND TRAINING PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amount appro-  
10 priated under subsection (d), the Secretary shall es-  
11 tablish the Native American Language Vitalization  
12 and Training Program under which the Secretary  
13 shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible  
14 institutions to promote the preservation, revitaliza-  
15 tion, relevancy, and use of Native American lan-  
16 guages.

17 “(2) TERM.—The term of a grant under this  
18 section shall be not more than 5 years.

19 “(3) APPLICATION.—

20 “(A) STREAMLINED PROCESS.—In car-  
21 rying out the program under this section, the  
22 Secretary shall establish application require-  
23 ments in such a manner as to simplify and  
24 streamline the process for the grant application  
25 under this section.

1           “(B) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to re-  
2           ceive a grant under this subsection, an eligible  
3           institution shall submit to the Secretary an ap-  
4           plication at such time, in such manner, and in  
5           accordance with any other application require-  
6           ments described in subparagraph (A), that the  
7           Secretary may prescribe, and including the fol-  
8           lowing:

9                   “(i) A description of the 5-year pro-  
10                  gram of the eligible institution for meeting  
11                  the needs of American Indians, Alaska Na-  
12                  tives, Native Hawaiians, or Native Amer-  
13                  ican Pacific Islanders as appropriate, in  
14                  the area served by the institution, and how  
15                  such plan is consistent with the purposes  
16                  described in paragraph (1).

17                  “(ii)(I) An identification of the popu-  
18                  lation to be served by the eligible institu-  
19                  tion; and

20                  “(II) an identification of the status of  
21                  Native American language understanding  
22                  and use within that population and a de-  
23                  scription of the manner in which the pro-  
24                  gram will help preserve and revitalize the  
25                  relevant Native American language.

1                   “(iii) A description of the services to  
2                   be provided under the program, including  
3                   the manner in which the services will be in-  
4                   tegrated with other appropriate activities.

5                   “(iv) A description, to be prepared in  
6                   consultation with the Secretary, of the per-  
7                   formance measures to be used to assess  
8                   the performance of the eligible institution  
9                   in carrying out the program.

10           “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution may  
11 use a grant under this section to carry out activities con-  
12 sistent with the purposes described in subsection (a)(1),  
13 including—

14                   “(1) curriculum development and academic in-  
15                   struction, including educational activities, programs,  
16                   and partnerships relating to students in early child-  
17                   hood education programs through grade 12;

18                   “(2) professional development for faculty at the  
19                   eligible institution and in-service training programs  
20                   for early childhood education programs through  
21                   grade 12 instructors and administrators; and

22                   “(3) innovative Native American language pro-  
23                   grams for students in early childhood education pro-  
24                   grams through grade 12, including language immer-  
25                   sion programs.

1 “(c) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—

2 “(1) CONCURRENT FUNDING.—

3 “(A) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—

4 An eligible institution that is a Tribal College  
5 or University may receive a grant under this  
6 section and funds under section 316 concur-  
7 rently.

8 “(B) ALASKA NATIVE-SERVING INSTITU-

9 TION OR NATIVE HAWAIIAN-SERVING INSTITU-  
10 TION.—An eligible institution that is an Alaska  
11 Native-serving institution or Native Hawaiian-  
12 serving institution may receive a grant under  
13 this section and funds under section 317 con-  
14 currently.

15 “(C) ASIAN AMERICAN AND NATIVE AMER-

16 ICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER-SERVING INSTITU-  
17 TION.—An eligible institution that is an Asian  
18 American and Native American Pacific Is-  
19 lander-serving institution may receive a grant  
20 under this section and funds under section 320  
21 concurrently.

22 “(2) EXEMPTION.—Sections 312(b) and 313(d)  
23 shall not apply to an eligible institution that receives  
24 a grant under this section.

1       “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
3 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2020 and each of the 5 suc-  
4 ceeding fiscal years.

5       “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6           “(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-  
7 ble institution’ means—

8               “(A) a Tribal College or University, as de-  
9 fined in section 316;

10              “(B) an Alaska Native-serving institution,  
11 as defined in section 317;

12              “(C) a Native Hawaiian-serving institu-  
13 tion, as defined in section 317; or

14              “(D) an Asian American and Native Amer-  
15 ican Pacific Islander-serving institution, as de-  
16 fined in section 320, which is located in the  
17 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-  
18 lands, American Samoa, or Guam.

19           “(2) NATIVE AMERICAN.—The term ‘Native  
20 American’ has the meaning given the term in section  
21 371(c)(6).”.

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