



2023 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 169

Introduced by: **Senator Bordeaux**

1 **An Act to establish the Commission on Truth and Reconciliation.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That chapter 1-54 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

4 There is hereby established the Commission on Truth and Reconciliation. The
 5 commission shall review past and present federal and state policies affecting the nine
 6 federally recognized tribes and their members in this state.

7 The Governor shall appoint seven members to the commission.

8 The commission shall:

- 9 (1) Take testimony from those affected by past government policies and actions
 10 involving Native Americans in this state;
 11 (2) Identify how government policies have impacted Native Americans;
 12 (3) Provide recommendations on how to begin an official process of healing; and
 13 (4) Provide recommendations to the state on how to increase tribal involvement, tribal
 14 and state government communication, and respect for each tribe's sovereignty.

15 **Section 2. That chapter 1-54 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

16 The Commission on Truth and Reconciliation shall prepare a comprehensive report
 17 on its findings and recommendations and shall submit the report to the Governor and the
 18 Legislature. Upon completion of the report, the commission is dissolved.

19 The Department of Tribal Relations shall provide staff support to the commission.