

Calendar No. 557

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 1344****[Report No. 107-248]**

To provide training and technical assistance to Native Americans who are interested in commercial vehicle driving careers.

 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2, 2001

Mr. CAMPBELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

AUGUST 28, 2002

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of July 29, 2002, by Mr. INOUE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To provide training and technical assistance to Native Americans who are interested in commercial vehicle driving careers.

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 Com-
5 mercial Driving Training and Technical Assistance Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
3 ings:

4 (1) Despite the availability of abundant natural
5 resources on Indian lands and a rich cultural legacy
6 that accords great value to self-determination, self-
7 reliance, and independence, Native Americans suffer
8 higher rates of unemployment, poverty, poor health,
9 substandard housing, and associated social ills than
10 those of any other group in the United States.

11 (2) The United States has an obligation to as-
12 sist Indian tribes with the creation of appropriate
13 economic and political conditions.

14 (3) The economic success and material well-
15 being of Native American communities depends on
16 the combined efforts of the Federal Government,
17 tribal governments, the private sector, and individ-
18 uals.

19 (4) Two tribally controlled community colleges,
20 D-Q University in the State of California and Fort
21 Peck Community College in the State of Montana,
22 currently offer commercial vehicle driving programs.

23 (5) The American Trucking Association reports
24 that at least until the year 2005, the trucking indus-
25 try will need to hire 403,000 truck drivers each year
26 to fill empty positions.

1 (6) According to the Federal Government Occu-
2 pational Handbook the commercial driving industry
3 is expected to increase about as fast as the average
4 for all occupations through the year 2008 as the
5 economy grows and the amount of freight carried by
6 trucks increases.

7 (7) A career in commercial vehicle driving of-
8 fers a competitive salary, employment benefits, job
9 security, and a profession.

10 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act—

11 (1) to foster and promote job creation and eco-
12 nomic opportunities for Native Americans; and

13 (2) to provide education, technical, and training
14 assistance to Native Americans who are interested in
15 a commercial vehicle driving career.

16 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

17 In this Act:

18 (1) **COMMERCIAL VEHICLE DRIVING.**—The term
19 “commercial vehicle driving” means the driving of a
20 vehicle which is a tractor-trailer truck.

21 (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
22 the Secretary of Labor.

1 **SEC. 4. COMMERCIAL VEHICLE DRIVING TRAINING PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award 4 grants, on
4 a competitive basis, to eligible entities to support pro-
5 grams providing training and certificates leading to the
6 professional development of individuals with respect to
7 commercial vehicle driving.

8 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
9 under subsection (a), an entity shall—

10 (1) be a tribally-controlled community college or
11 university (as defined in section 2 of the Tribally-
12 Controlled Community College or University Assist-
13 ance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801)); and

14 (2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an ap-
15 plication at such time, in such manner, and con-
16 taining such information as the Secretary may re-
17 quire.

18 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under subsection
19 (a), the Secretary shall give priority to—

20 (1) grant applications that propose training
21 that exceeds the United States Department of
22 Transportation's Proposed Minimum Standards for
23 Training Tractor-Trailer Drivers; and

24 (2) grant applications that propose training
25 that exceeds the entry level truck driver certification

1 standards set by the Professional Truck Driver In-
2 stitute.

3 (d) ~~AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.~~—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
5 necessary to carry out the Act.

6 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

7 *This Act may be cited as the “Native American Com-
8 mercial Driving Training and Technical Assistance Act”.*

9 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

10 (a) *FINDINGS.*—Congress finds that—

11 (1) *despite the availability of abundant natural*
12 *resources on land under the jurisdiction of Indian*
13 *tribes and the existence of a rich cultural legacy that*
14 *accords great value to self-determination, self-reliance,*
15 *and independence, Native Americans suffer higher*
16 *rates of unemployment, poverty, poor health, sub-*
17 *standard housing, and associated social problems*
18 *than any other group in the United States;*

19 (2) *the United States has an obligation to assist*
20 *Native American communities in the establishment of*
21 *appropriate economic and political conditions;*

22 (3) *the economic success and material well-being*
23 *of Indian communities depend on the combined efforts*
24 *of the Federal Government, tribal governments, the*
25 *private sector, and individuals;*

1 (4) *commercial vehicle driving programs are*
2 *currently offered at several tribal colleges and univer-*
3 *sities;*

4 (5) *the American Trucking Association reports*
5 *that at least until 2005, the trucking industry will*
6 *need to hire 403,000 truck drivers each year to fill va-*
7 *cant positions;*

8 (6) *according to the Federal Government Occu-*
9 *ptional Handbook, the commercial vehicle driving*
10 *industry is expected to expand at the average rate of*
11 *expansion for all occupations through the year 2008*
12 *because of economic growth and an increase in the*
13 *quantity of freight carried by trucks; and*

14 (7) *a career in commercial vehicle driving offers*
15 *a competitive salary, employment benefits, job secu-*
16 *rity, and a profession.*

17 (b) *PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—*

18 (1) *to foster and promote job creation and eco-*
19 *nomie opportunities for Native Americans; and*

20 (2) *to provide education, technical, and training*
21 *assistance to Native Americans who are interested in*
22 *commercial vehicle driving careers.*

23 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

24 *In this Act:*

1 (1) *COMMERCIAL VEHICLE DRIVING.*—The term
2 “commercial vehicle driving” means the driving of—

3 (A) a vehicle that is a tractor-trailer truck;

4 or

5 (B) any other vehicle (such as a bus or a
6 vehicle used for the purpose of construction) the
7 driving of which requires a commercial license.

8 (2) *INDIAN TRIBE.*—The term “Indian tribe” has
9 the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian
10 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25
11 U.S.C. 450b).

12 (3) *NATIVE AMERICAN.*—The term “Native
13 American” means an individual who is a member
14 of—

15 (A) an Indian tribe; or

16 (B) any people or culture that is indigenous
17 to the United States, as determined by the Sec-
18 retary.

19 (4) *SECRETARY.*—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of Labor.

21 **SEC. 4. COMMERCIAL VEHICLE DRIVING TRAINING PRO-**
22 **GRAM.**

23 (a) *GRANTS.*—The Secretary may provide grants, on
24 a competitive basis, to entities described in subsection (b)
25 to support programs providing training and certificates

1 *leading to the licensing of Native Americans with respect*
2 *to commercial vehicle driving.*

3 (b) *ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant*
4 *under subsection (a), an entity shall—*

5 (1) *be a tribal college or university (as defined*
6 *in section 316(b)(3) of the Higher Education Act (20*
7 *U.S.C. 1059(b)(3)); and*

8 (2) *prepare and submit to the Secretary an ap-*
9 *plication at such time, in such manner, and con-*
10 *taining such information as the Secretary may re-*
11 *quire.*

12 (c) *PRIORITY.—In providing grants under subsection*
13 *(a), the Secretary shall give priority to grant applications*
14 *that—*

15 (1) *propose training that exceeds proposed min-*
16 *imum standards for training tractor-trailer drivers of*
17 *the Department of Transportation;*

18 (2) *propose training that exceeds the entry level*
19 *truck driver certification standards set by the Profes-*
20 *sional Truck Driver Institute; and*

21 (3) *propose an education partnership with a pri-*
22 *vate trucking firm, trucking association, or similar*
23 *entity in order to ensure the effectiveness of the grant*
24 *program under this section.*

1 *(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
2 *authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary*
3 *to carry out this Act.*

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