

June 2022 Congressional Committee Meetings Update

This month, AIPI tracked the following U.S. House and Senate Committee meetings affecting Indian Country for the month of June. This list includes meetings that took place between May 20, 2022 and June 24, 2022.

1. **May 24, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States and the House Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education - [Joint Subcommittee Hearing: Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Bureau of Indian Education.](#)**
 - Panel:
 - Mr. Tony L. Dearman, Director, Bureau of Indian Education, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.
2. **May 25, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [Nomination Hearing to consider Roselyn Tso to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.](#)**
 - Panel:
 - Ms. Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC
3. **June 1, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [Field Hearing titled “Upholding the Federal Trust Responsibility: Funding & Program Access for Innovation in the Native Hawaiian Community” \(part 1\).](#)**
 - Panel 1:
 - The Honorable Carmen "Hulu" Lindsey, Chair, Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Honolulu, HI
 - Mr. William J. Aila, Jr., Chairman, Hawaiian Homes Commission, Kapolei, HI
 - Mr. Kūhiō Lewis, President & Chief Executive Officer, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, Kapolei, HI
 - Panel 2:
 - Dr. Sheri-Ann Daniels, Ed.D., Executive Director, Papa Ola Lōkahi, Honolulu, HI
 - Dr. Winona Kaalouahi Lee, M.D., Associate Chair, Medical Education, Department of Native Hawaiian Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI
 - Ms. Elena Farden, Executive Director, Native Hawaiian Education Council, Honolulu, HI

4. **June 2, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [Field Hearing titled “Upholding the Federal Trust Responsibility: Funding & Program Access for Innovation in the Native Hawaiian Community” \(part 2\).](#)**

- Panel 1:
 - Ms. Nāmaka Rawlins, Alaka’i, Senior Director, Hale Kipa ‘Ōiwi at ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, Hilo, HI
 - Ms. M. Kāhealani K Naeole-Wong, Po’o Kula, Head of School, Kamehameha Schools, Kea’au Campus, Kea’au, HI
 - Dr. Keiki Kawai’ae’a, Ph.D., Director, Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai’i at Hilo, Hilo, HI
 - Ms. Amy Kalili, Partner, Pilina First LLP, Kailua, HI
- Panel 2:
 - Ms. Luana Kawelu, President, Merrie Monarch Festival, Hilo, HI
 - Dr. Noa Kekuewa Lincoln, Ph.D., Advisor, Hawai’i ‘Ulu Cooperative, President, Māla Kalu’ulu Cooperative & Associate Research Professor, University of Hawai’i, Hilo, HI
 - Mr. Kūha’o Zane, Creative Director, Sig Zane Designs and SZKaiao & Kālainmoku Board of Directors, Edith Kanaka’ole Foundation, Hilo, HI

5. **June 17, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [A Listening Session on “Cannabis in Indian Country.”](#)**

- As discussions around national cannabis reform legislation take shape, SCIA staff is seeking comments from Tribal leaders, their designees, and other experts from Native communities on Tribal cannabis commerce and related equities. Committee staff is especially interested in hearing views on these questions:
 - Is your Tribe currently participating in the cannabis industry? If so, please provide a brief description of your operation(s).
 - For Tribes not currently participating in the cannabis industry, what are your main concerns about industry participation?
 - What legislative solutions would you propose to address your concerns?
 - What administrative solutions would you propose to address your concerns?
 - For Tribes currently participating in the cannabis industry, what are the main issues you encounter as a Tribal operator?
 - What legislative solutions would you propose to address your concerns?
 - What administrative solutions would you propose to address your concerns?
 - If cannabis is decriminalized at the federal level, what Tribal-Federal-State framework would you propose to ensure Tribal interests are safeguarded?
- SCIA will accept additional written comments until July 8, 2022. Submit written comments [here](#).
- Email additional questions to:
 - Concetta Tsosie de Haro, Concetta_TsosiedeHaro@indian.senate.gov
 - Darren Modzelewski, Darren_Modzelewski@indian.senate.gov

6. **June 22, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [Oversight Hearing on "Volume 1 of the Department of the Interior's Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report" & Legislative Hearing to receive testimony on S. 2907.](#)**
- Panel 1:
 - The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary of the Interior, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC
 - Panel 2:
 - The Honorable Kirk Francis, Chief, Penobscot Indian Nation, Indian Island, ME
 - Ms. Sandra White Hawk, President, National Native American Boarding School, Healing Coalition, Minneapolis, MN
 - Ms. Norma Ryūkō Kawelokū Wong Roshi, Native Hawaiian Policy Lead, Office of Former Hawai'i Governor John Waihe'e, Honolulu, HI
 - La Quen Náay Liz Medicine Crow, President/CEO, First Alaskans Institute, Anchorage, AK