

May 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 March. This list includes meetings that took place between April 25, 2022 and May 20, 2022.

1. April 27, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States - [SCIP Hybrid Legislative Hearing](#).

- **Bills Considered:**

- [H.R. 437](#) - A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to Alaska Native elders for determining eligibility for certain programs, and for other purposes.
- [H.R. 6063](#) - A bill to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes.
- [H.R. 6181](#) - A bill to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Samish Indian Nation, and for other purposes. "*Samish Indian Nation Land Reaffirmation Act.*"
- [S. 314](#) - A bill to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act. "*Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act.*"
- [S. 559](#) - A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act, and for other purposes.
- [S. 789](#) - A bill to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians. "*Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act.*"

- **Panel:**

- The Honorable Douglas G. Lankford, Chief, The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Miami, OK
- The Honorable Tom Wooten, Chairman Samish Indian Nation, Anacortes, WA
- The Honorable Donald Gentry, Chairman, The Klamath Tribes, Chiloquin, OR
- The Honorable Cheryle A. Kennedy, Chairwoman, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Grand Ronde, OR
- The Honorable Sheri Burette, Chairman of the Board Chugach Alaska Corporation, Anchorage, AK
- The Honorable Misty Napeahi, Vice-Chairwoman, Tulalip Tribes, Tulalip, WA

- The Honorable Tamara St. John, South Dakota State Representative, 1st District, Sisseton, SD

2. April 28, 2022: House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations - [Hybrid O&I Oversight Hearing](#).

- Panel 1:
 - Ms. Anne Kinsinger, Associate Director for Ecosystems, U.S. Geological Survey
- Panel 2:
 - Dr. Colin Carlson, Assistant Research Professor Center for Global Health Science and Security, Georgetown University Medical Center
 - Dr. David Stallknecht, Director, Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, Professor in Wildlife Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia
 - Ms. Catherine Semcer, Research Fellow, Property and Environment Research Center
 - Dr. Julie Thorstenson, Executive Director, Native American Fish and Wildlife Society

3. April 29, 2022: Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry - [Growing Jobs and Economic Opportunity: 2023 Farm Bill Perspectives from Michigan](#).

- Panel 1:
 - Ms. Rosie Florian, Food Hub Manager, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, MI
 - Ms. Juliette King McAvoy, Vice President of Sales & Marketing, King Orchards, Central Lake, MI
 - Mrs. Ashley Kennedy, Owner, Sheridan Dairy, Bad Axe, MI
 - Mr. Jake Isley, Owner, Stewardship Farms, Blissfield, MI
 - Mr. Glen Chown, Executive Director, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, Traverse City, MI
 - Dr. Phil Knight, Executive Director, Food Bank Council of Michigan, Lansing, MI
 - Mr. Tom Vear, Owner & Operator, Donckers and the Delft Bistro, Marquette, MI
 - Mr. Stephen Ewald, Owner & Operator, Ewald Farms, Unionville, MI
- Panel 2:
 - Mr. Brian Bates, Owner, Bear Creek Organic Farm, Petoskey, MI
 - Ms. Marisa Jacobs Sr., Associate Grower, Square Roots, Inc., Wyoming, MI
 - Mrs. Karianne Martus, Manager, Flint Farmers' Market, Flint, MI
 - Dr. Joseph Sullivan Director of Pullet Operations Herbruck's Poultry Ranch, Inc. Saranac, MI
 - Mr. Alexander Ball, Owner, Old City Acres, Belleville, MI

- Mrs. Rachel Lyons, Tribal Manager, Bay Mills Indian Community, Brimley, MI
- Ms. Lisa Woodke, Sustainability Director, Star of the West Milling Co., Frankenmuth, MI
- Mrs. Allyson Maxwell, Co-Owner, Peter Maxwell Farms, Beaverton, MI

4. May 4, 2022: United States Committee on Indian Affairs - [Oversight: Setting New Foundations: Implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Native Communities.](#)

- Panel 1:
 - Mr. Wizipan Garriott, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC
 - Ms. Elizabeth Fowler, Acting Director, Indian Health Service U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC
 - Accompanied by RADM Mark Calkins, P.E., U.S. Public Health Service, Assistant Surgeon General, Director, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction, Indian Health Service
 - Mr. Timothy Hess, Associate Administrator for Federal Lands, Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
 - Mr. Adam Geisler, Division Chief, Tribal Connectivity and Nation to Nation Coordination, National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC
- Panel 2:
 - The Honorable Mark Mitchell, Chairman All Pueblo Council of Governors, Albuquerque, NM
 - The Honorable Harold Frazier, Chairman Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association, Eagle Butte, SD
 - Mr. Garret Yoshimi, Chief Information Officer & Vice President, Information Technology University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
 - Ms. Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice-President & General Counsel Alaska Federation of Natives, Anchorage, AK

5. May 12, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States - [SCIP Hybrid Legislative Hearing.](#)

- Bill Considered:
 - [H.R. 5444](#) - A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes. "Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act."
- Panel:
 - James LaBelle, Sr., 1st Vice President and Boarding School Survivor National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition, Anchorage, AK

- Matthew War Bonnet, Boarding School Survivor Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Snohomish, WA
 - Dr. Ramona Charette Klein, Boarding School Survivor, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Medina, ND
 - The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chief Shawnee Tribe, Miami, OK
 - Deborah Parker, Chief Executive Officer, National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition Minneapolis, MN
 - Dr. Janine Pease, D. Ed., Founding President and Faculty Member, Little Big Horn, College Crow Agency, MT
- 6. May 13, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States - [Oversight: Environmental Justice in Indigenous Communities](#).**
- Panel:
 - The Honorable Ira Taken Alive, Vice-Chairman, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, ND
 - The Honorable Melvin J. Baker, Chairman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO
 - Mr. Herb Lee, Jr., President & CEO, Pacific American Foundation, Kaneohe, Hawaii
- 7. May 18, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - [Business Meeting to consider S. 3381, S. 3773 & S. 3789 and Roundtable discussion on “Public Safety in Native Communities”](#).**
- Bills considered:
 - [S. 3381](#) – A bill to require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to process and complete all mortgage packages associated with residential and business mortgages on Indian land by certain deadlines, and for other purposes
 - [S. 3773](#) - A bill to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
 - [S. 3789](#) - A bill to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes.
- 8. May 19, 2022: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources - [Full Committee Hearing to Examine the President's FY 2023 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior](#).**
- Panel:
 - The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
- 9. May 20, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States - [Hearing on Tribal-Related Legislation - Including RESPECT Act and Stop Act](#).**
- Bills considered:

- [H.R. 2930](#) - A bill to enhance protections of Native American tangible cultural heritage, and for other purposes, STOP Act of 2021.
- [H.R. 438](#) - A bill to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes.
- [RESPECT Act](#) - A bill to prescribe procedures for effective consultation and coordination by Federal agencies with federally recognized Indian Tribes regarding Federal Government actions that impact Tribal lands and interests to ensure that meaningful Tribal input is an integral part of the Federal decision-making process.

10. May 24, 2022: House Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States; and the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education - [Joint Subcommittee Hearing: Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Bureau of Indian Education](#)

- Witness:
 - Mr. Tony L. Dearman, Director, Bureau of Indian Education, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.