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Sender: "Wilhemina Wright" <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>

[E-mail Source](#)

Subject: Indian Ed.for all funding hearing

Date: Wed, 9 Feb 2005 10:24:02 -0700

To: "Eve Franklin" <evf@bresnan.net>, "Don Ryan" <senatorndonryan@msn.com>, "Carol Williams" <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, "John Esp" <jesp@mcn.net>, "Bill Glaser" <glaser@mcn.net>, "Verdell Jackson" <vjackson@state.mt.us>, "Carol Juneau" <repjuneau@bresnan.net>

Greeting:

Hi my name is Gwen BigSam, I'm a senior from Arlee High School herer on the flathead reservation. I am a enrolled Indian member on the Flathead reservation. I enjoy going to school on the reservation. I'm taking some class that have to do with american indian history, and i feel that we as a school don't have a enough books or feid trips to learn about our people and their way of life back then. The main reason that is stopping us from learning about the history, is that we as a school don't have enough money. I feel that 2 million dollars isn't enough money to get that learning about our people. Or at least not getting the education that we should be getting, because me and the rest of the kids that I go to school with would like to learn more about our culture. I feel that 20 to 30 million maybe just enough. I'm just letting you know from my learning here at the Arlee High school. even though I'm not going to be here when or if you great leards pass this. I still would like to see a change for all the younger girls and boys to get the chance to learn about their culture and people. Sadly to say but we the salish people is losing our language, we're losing our elders. So thats why we need to take this chance to teach our younger ones about their culture so they can pass it on to their children.

I thank you very much for taking some time out of your busy day to read and see what i have in mind of changing the world. I dont want to see my culture to leave. I am very proud to be a young American Indian Girl.

Thank you
 Gwen BigSam

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Sender: "Rayme Bringuel" <luck_e_me__@hotmail.com>

E-mail Source

Subject: Indian education for all

Date: Tue, 08 Feb 2005 11:50:14 -0700

To: repjuneau@bresnan.net

Dear Honorable Representative Carol Juneau,

I am a junior attending Arlee Highschool and I was recently asked, in my History class, to contemplate the situation of lacking American Indian Funds for education in Montana. The paper that my teacher handed out to me contained the information stating that the Subcommittee of Appropriations is only providing \$2.0 Million for education funds. I believe that this is not enough. They need to consider the whole state; \$2.0 million would not even cover half. Montana is a state of low income and wages, therefore, prices need to be increased to help out communities for a better education. I would suggest about \$6 million to \$7 million dollars for this fund. Listen to the people, we are the ones who need the money.

Thank you for your consideration about this issue. If you have any questions or comments, please e-mail my teacher at wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us.

Sincerely,
Rayme Bringuel

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Sender: Jessi Clarkin <way_2wild_4_u@yahoo.com>

E-mail Source

Subject: subcommittee on education appropriation**Date:** Tue, 8 Feb 2005 10:59:28 -0800 (PST)**To:** repjuneau@bresnan.net

Dear Honorable Representative Carol Juneau,

Hello my name is Jessica Clarkin, I'm from the Arlee High School I'm currently in the 11th grade. I would like to talk to you about the subcommittee on education appropriation that is held on Thursday Feb. 10th on voting on the funding level for Indian Education For All.

I believe that the Indian Education For All needs more money then they offer to us now. I believe we need about \$5.5million at the least. The reason why I say that is because the children now that are a part of the Salish and Kootenai and Pend d' Orielle don't really know much at all about their own tribes, which I believe is sad. I believe we need more education towards the Indian Education.

I would like to Thank You for all your time to read what I have to say.

Sincerely and the best wishes to you.

Jessica A. Clarkin. 

Please send to wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us

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Sender: "Wilhemina Wright" <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>[E-mail Source](#)**Subject:** Indian Ed. for All funding hearings**Date:** Wed, 9 Feb 2005 09:30:36 -0700
To: "Eve Franklin" <evef@bresnan.net>, "Don Ryan" <senatorndonryan@msn.com>, "Carol Williams" <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, "John Esp" <jesp@mcn.net>, "Bill Glaser" <glaser@mcn.net>, "Verdell Jackson" <vjackson@state.mt.us>, "Carol Juneau" <repjuneau@bresnan.net>

Greetings,

My name is Brittanie Cordier and I feel that more money should be provided towards the schools for the Indian Education for All. I think that we should receive \$20 million because there are 1,571 schools in Montana and \$2 million is not enough to divide up between this many schools. \$2 million divided by 1,571 schools is only \$1,273 per school. If we received \$20 million each school would get \$12,730. Therefore I believe that we should receive \$20 million to be able to cover the cost for textbooks and teacher curriculum.

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Sender: "Lawrence Dubois" <dubois_8@hotmail.com>

[E-mail Source](#)

Subject: appropriations for educations for funding

Date: Tue, 08 Feb 2005 13:04:33 -0600

To: repjuneau@bresnan.net

As a Canadian citizen living in Arlee Montana, i feel it is starting to be important decision to have a book on information about Indians and how they made about the land when they were invaded by Europeans and Vikings. for me I enjoy learning about other Indians and how they go about healing and ceremonies.in closing i think they should get 10,000,000 dollars for funding which i feel will be adequate for the native people and others. I'm tried of learning white cultures!

Sincerely Lawernce dubois

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Date: Tue, 8 Feb 2005 16:11:49 -0700

From: Wilhemina Wright <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>

To: "Carol C. Juneau" <csjuneau@3rivers.net>, Verdell Jackson <vjackson@state.mt.us>, Bill Glaser <glaser@mcn.net>, John Esp <jesp@mcn.net>, Carol Williams <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, Don Ryan <senatordonryan@msn.com>, Eve Franklin <evef@bresnan.net>

Subject: Indian Education For All funding hearings

Dear Honorable Congressional Representatives,

I am writing this letter in support for more funding for Indian Education For All. I personally feel that the current recommended amount of \$2.0 million dollars by the governor is not an adequate amount of funding for this statute. I think that a more reasonable request for funding in the amount of \$6.0 million dollars would be a more realistic amount. It will take alot of effort and money to plan, design, and to implement an Indian Studies program in all schools throughout the State of Montana.

I sincerely hope that the Subcommittee on Education Appropriations will vote for an increased funding amount to support the Indian Education For All Statute 20-1-501. I am a parent of American Indian children who attend Arlee Elementary School. They are fortunate to have an Indian Studies and Salish Language program in their school. I am currently the Chair person of the Arlee Indian Education Committee. Thank you for your time and a vote to increase funding is a vote to assure all Montana children will learn about the unique culture and heritage of the American Indians of Montana and the nation.

Sincerely,

Veronica Hanken

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Sender: "Ronda Howlett" <rhowlett@arlee.k12.mt.us>

E-mail Source

Subject: Funding Indian Education**Date:** Tue, 8 Feb 2005 17:41:44 -0700
To: <evef@bresnan.net>, <senatordonryan@msn.com>, <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, <jesp@mcn.net>, <glaser@mcn.net>, <vjackson@state.mt.us>, <repjuneau@bresnan.net>

Dear Representatives and Senators,

I am a fifth grade teacher from Arlee, Montana, and I am concerned that Indian Education For All is being underfunded. Please understand that the \$2 million recommended by Governor Schwietzer for funding Indian Education For All is not enough to support even the professional development of our Montana educators and State employees across the state.

Professional development is a reasonable approach to meet some of the Indian Education goals because the complexities of Indian Education require deeper understanding.

Please consider the budget presented by the Office of Public Instruction through the Montana Summit on Indian Education which was held last fall in Helena. I joined 5 other teachers from our school who helped hundreds of educators solidify goals for Indian Education. Thank you for reviewing this document before making your decision for appropriations.

Respectfully,

Ronda Howlett

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Sender: Ershaunda Moran <ershy_m@yahoo.com>

E-mail Source

Subject: Indian Education for All**Date:** Tue, 8 Feb 2005 10:53:22 -0800 (PST)**To:** repjuneau@bresnan.net

Dear Honorable Representative Carol Juneau,

I am a student from Arlee High School. I am writing on behalf of the funding for Indian Education for All. I don't feel that \$2 million dollars is enough money to let every school in Montana have an adequate American Indian History course offered. There are many schools now that don't even offer an Indian Education course. If we only get the \$2 million being offered that might give just enough money for those schools to just get an program going; not get those programs going and give the other schools the money they need to get better text books and programs.

If the decision was up to me I would ask for somewhere around \$6-7 million dollars to fund all the Montana schools kindergarten through twelfth grade. I feel that asking for that amount of money isn't being too greedy, but any amount will help. I just ask that it will be enough to let all the kids in Montana learn about the American Indian heritage even if he or she is not Indian.

If you have any comments about my letter contact wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us

Sincerely,
Ershaunda Moran

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Sender: "Wilhemina Wright" <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>[E-mail Source](#)**Subject:** Indian Ed. for All funding hearings**Date:** Wed, 9 Feb 2005 09:44:10 -0700
To: "Eve Franklin" <evf@bresnan.net>, "Don Ryan" <senatordonryan@msn.com>, "Carol Williams" <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, "John Esp" <jesp@mcn.net>, "Bill Glaser" <glaser@mcn.net>, "Verdell Jackson" <vjackson@state.mt.us>, "Carol Juneau" <repjuneau@bresnan.net>

Dear Subcommittee on Appropriations

I am a senior at Arlee high School. Indian Education is a very crucial part of our education. The school gives us a few classes about the native culture. They provide Indian Studies and a language course in Salish. Before I moved to Arlee, I lived in Helena and went to school there. After going to both schools I think that everyone should have the opportunity to know both sides of the culture in the U.S.

I believe that the \$2.0 million dollars, recommended by the Governor will not be enough money for the job that is requested. It will be very difficult for all the schools in Montana to receive enough money for a well designed program for our youth. With the amount of money the Governor requested each school will only receive \$1,273 if there are 1,571 schools in Montana. That will not be close to the amount of money needed to get this program running. The cost of text books and the materials needed now a days, you will need at least \$13,000 per school and that will be at least \$20 million dollars at 1,571 schools. The more money the better the results will be in the end.

Sincerely,
Kyle O'Reilly
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Sender: rosie parker <rosalie_posalie@yahoo.com>

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Subject: Indian Ed. for All funding hearings

Date: Tue, 8 Feb 2005 10:57:47 -0800 (PST)

To: repjuneau@bresnan.net

Dear Honorable Representative Carol Juneau,

My name is Rosalie Parker I'm a student currently attending Arlee High School. I'm writing in response to the Indian Education for All. I do not believe that \$2.0 million is going to be enough money for all of Montana. I believe that in order to educate the students more about their culture this may require more funding.

Sincerely,
Rosalie Parker



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Sender: Addz <vanity_issues@yahoo.com>

E-mail Source

Subject: American Indian Education**Date:** Tue, 8 Feb 2005 10:49:52 -0800 (PST)**To:** repjuneau@bresnan.net

Dear Honorable Representative Carol Juneau,

I am a student at Arlee High School, and we have been informed in our World History class about the lack of Indian Education funding that Montana is receiving. With the lack of Indian Education in our schools, the funding of \$2 Million dollars does not seem to be up to par. It would not be unrealistic to be asking for as much as \$6 Million for the American Indian Education that our state needs. I am hoping that the meeting Wednesday, February 9, with the Subcommittee Education Appropriations Recommendations will discuss this inadequate amount of money this state has been recommended on getting.

I am proud to be apart of this, and I do think that our state needs more Indian Education in our schooling. It is sad to see our culture vanishing, and that needs to stop. Hopefully, with all of the representatives and everybody that thinks the same thing, they will have a big enough influence on the Govenor to see that there are people out there that do care.

Thank you for your time in reading my e-mail. A return address for any comments or thoughts you might have, would be to our American History teacher, Willie Wright, at wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us

Thank you again, and I appreciate everything that you're doing.

Sincerely,

Addie Steele

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Sender: "Wilhemina Wright" <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>

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Subject: Indian Education for All hearing**Date:** Tue, 8 Feb 2005 15:14:55 -0700
To: "Eve Franklin" <evef@bresnan.net>, "Don Ryan" <senatorondonryan@msn.com>, "Carol Williams" <cwilliams@montanadsl.net>, "John Esp" <jesp@mcn.net>, "Bill Glaser" <glaser@mcn.net>, "Verdell Jackson" <vjackson@state.mt.us>, "Carol Juneau" <repjuneau@bresnan.net>
Cc: "Wright, Willie" <wwright@arlee.k12.mt.us>

Dear Honorable Congressional Representatives:

I am writing this letter in support of the Indian Education for All Montana Statute 20-1-501. I believe it is critical that this bill receives appropriate funding to assist educators in developing a design, plan, and implementation of this bill in every school in Montana. Also, that these schools be held accountable in providing all school children with educational curriculum that is about American Indian history, culture, and language that is specific to Montana tribes. I truly believe that the current projected appropriations of \$2,000,000 is inadequate and increased funding support is necessary. I feel that asking our Montana legislators for \$7,000,000 is a fair and reasonable request. It will take a lot of hard work and effort to develop a K-12 American Indian Studies curriculum for students and educators in all Montana Schools.

Sincerely,

Wilhemina "Willie" Wright

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