

SERIOUS CONCERNS FROM
INDIAN & NATIVE AMERICAN GRANTEES OF THE 39th NATIONAL INDIAN & NATIVE AMERICAN
EMPLOYMENT/PUBLIC LAW 102-477 TRAINING CONFERENCE (NINAETC/477)

Marksville, Louisiana, April 12, 2018

AND

U.S.D.O.L. NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING COUNCIL (NAETC),
ADVISORY COUNCIL

- The Trump Administration FY 2019 budget proposes to eliminate the funding for the Department of Labor Indian and Native American (INA). The President's FY 2019 budget justification **erroneously cites** that the INA Programs are "ineffective", "unproven", "not pushed to improve their performance" but acknowledges that "performance results are comparable to the outcomes of Native American participants in the WIOA program".

- The Budget further proposes to create Native American set-aside within the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult formula grant program in order to bring the provision of workforce service to Native American adults into the core workforce system.

- The Budget proposes to eliminate the INA Programs without regard for the language in the enacted legislation, and with complete disregard for the special relationship with the federal government, unlike other workforce development funding streams.

- The proposed transfer of the WIOA, INA, Section 166 Programs to the State Adult formula grant program has been initiated without consideration or respect for the consultation process with the NAETC, the Advisory Council, or the principles of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and the government to government relationship between the Federal government and Indian Tribal governments and without the advice and consent of the NAETC.

- The proposed transfer of the WIOA, INA, Section 166 Programs to the State Adult formula grant program impacts an eligible Indian and Native American population residing on reservation, urban, and rural communities and includes a grantee community representing U.S. federally and state recognized tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians and seriously jeopardizes the ability of grantees to receive and administer federal funds or to integrate the use of federal funds as presently provided.

—It is requested that (1) the INA Programs continue to be administered in harmony with Federal Indian Policy and funded accordingly as mandated in the law; and (2) the U. S. Department of Labor honor the unique status of the Native American population and the corresponding need to administer the Indian and Native American programs at the national level with special regard to the government to government relationship.