

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

20005

2001 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2005


2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2005

Senate Appropriations Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 12, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	Indian Affairs		17.0-46.9
1		Indian Affairs	0.0-12.0
Committee Clerk Signature 			

Minutes:

Senator Solberg opening hearing for the Indian Affairs Commission.

Cynthia Mala, Executive Director, Indian Affairs Commission, testified (testimony attached), that Governor is Chairperson of their 9 member commission. The tribal chairpersons are elected from the four reservations, and four at large members who are appointed by the Governor. Three of the appointed members must be Indian. The Commission meets on a quarterly basis with the work coordinated and administered by the three member office staff. The Commission functions as a liaison in bringing the agencies and individuals together to address numerous social and economic issues that the Indian communities face. We need cooperation from both the federal and state level. The critical roll of the Commission staff is to represent and participate on various committees and boards to assure Indian input. We release this information to the appropriate tribal office and general their direct participation with the state agency or program. New biennium reflects a 7% increase which reflects reclassifying two positions for a budget of

\$3336,059, which is a reasonable and modest budget for the work of the Commission. The equipment budget is important to keep our technology upgraded and efficient as well as our web site which was developed which is a good tool for communication and inquires for the tribal programs. Tape Side A, meter 26.3

Senator Robinson: How much active dialog does your agency have with state agencies? Is it active or proactive or passive; can we do more for correctional facilities with incarceration or probation?

Cynthia Mala: That is an excellent question; incarceration is difficult; the non Indian staff and board need diversified training to prevent situations. You offenders from reservations cannot relate because of their upbringing. We need to create a tribal liaison.

Senator Robinson: Gave his point and previous experiences with Indians. We need to put this on the front burner for a good relationship and for everybody to understand.

Cynthia Mala: Al Lick is trying to reach out on this point with model projects.

Senator Bowman: In our education system, would a curriculum to teach teachers the Indian culture to better understand the Indian students in both relationships help?

Cynthia Mala: Yes; public instruction to develop a curriculum through the certification process; and to require credit hours for teachers on this subject.

Senator Heitkamp: There are success stories out there mainly what I have seen in the Wahpeton area; would this be a good example for others?

Cynthia Mala: There are some good examples out there and those designed for specific models; with resources there would be a long term affect. BIA Boarding School in Wahpeton is a good example.

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Senate Appropriations Committee

Bill/Resolution Number 2005

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Senator Solberg: With IHS there was a problem with health care; where is that now? As

Belcourt has an excellent staff and need for faculty; can you explain?

Cynthia Mala: It depends on the process and how it is paid; most assume that if you are an Indian your health care is paid, and this is not true. On certain reservations there needs to be referrals and contracts with the health service. Priorities with health care are very complex and not understood. We need to educate the people on this issue.

Senator Lindaas: I am aware that reservations were developed in specific areas around the state; can you explain the ownership on these lands by non-Indians and the affect of economics because of their ownership?

Cynthia Mala: This is all tied to the history; the homestead act formed the reservations, their boundaries of 160 acre tracts; this opened up non-Indian buyers like a land grab. She discussed with the committee the Indian history then and now with white people.

Senator Bowman: Would more education with Indians encourage this correlation?

Cynthia Mala: Most Indians today are mistreated, angry and just try to deal with it and we need to figure out how to deal with this.

Side B, meter 0.0

Senator Solberg: Commented profitability of casinos on the reservations and the fact that Indians are buying a lot of farm land off the reservation and how this way of business will confront their futures.

Cynthia Mala: The profits from casinos is not there right now; will know in future.

Senator Kringstad: Spoke on Indian ancestry; also is the population increase of Indians due to teen pregnancies?

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Senate Appropriations Committee

Bill/Resolution Number 2005

Hearing Date January 12, 2001

Cynthia Mala: Yes this is true across the country on the increased population on reservations; 18 years old is the average age for teenage pregnancies.

Cynthia Mala handed in testimony from United Tribes of North Dakota for their support on this budget.

Carol Two Eagles, testified in support of this bill. I am a sun dancer with a tradition in keeping pipe with prayers. She stated her past experiences as an Indian mainly the anger Indians have today. Also summarized her business experiences and the trouble getting financing because of her nationality.

Hearing was closed with no opposition.

January 23, 2001

Appropriations Committee was convened by Senator Nething.

SB 2005-Indian Affairs Commission:

Do Pass motion by Senator Solberg, seconded by Senator Heitkamp. No discussion; roll call vote: 12 yes; 0 no; 2 absent. Senator Solberg accepted the floor assignment.

Tape #1, Side A, meter 0.0-23.4

Date: 1-23-01

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2005

Senate Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken On Pass

Motion Made By Sen Solberg Seconded By Sen Heitkamp

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Dave Nething, Chairman	✓				
Ken Solberg, Vice-Chairman	✓				
Randy A. Schobinger	✓				
Elroy N. Lindaas	✓				
Harvey Tallackson	✓				
Larry J. Robinson	✓				
Steven W. Tomac	✓				
Joel C. Heitkamp	✓				
Tony Grindberg					
Russell T. Thane	✓				
Ed Kringstad	✓				
Ray Holmberg					
Bill Bowman	✓				
John M. Andrist	✓				

Total Yes 12 No 0

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment Sen Solberg

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
January 23, 2001 3:04 p.m.

**Module No: SR-11-1461**  
**Carrier: Solberg**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2005: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Nething, Chairman) recommends DO PASS**  
**(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2005 was placed on the**  
**Eleventh order on the calendar.**



2001 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2005

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2005

House Appropriations Committee  
Education and Environment Division

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 09, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1 of 2	Starting at 5970	x	2,840
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Judy Schrock</i>			

Minutes:

Representatives Aarsvold, Boehm, Gulleon, Martinson, Monson, Wald, Wentz.

Representative Wentz: We will now open the hearing on SB2005.

Cynthia Mala: Executive Director of ND Indian Affairs Commission, which is a Governor appointed position. I have held this job since 1998. I will be leaving my position as soon as Governor Hoeven has the time to announce my replacement. See attached. Also a directory, a profile of each of the tribal communities along with phone numbers.

Representative Wald: (720) In your hand out attachment one. It is a disturbing statistic, you say, of the young Indian women ages 14-24, 78 percent are high risk for contracting HIV/AIDS virus. What are we doing to combat that. That is very disturbing.

Cynthia Mala: The data is information I have collected in health service, the US Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. That statistic comes directly from a White House initiative on

education and prevention of HIV/AIDS, and an Indian member of that national body. When I heard the numbers, I too was startled. I put that number in there because it is a very important issue that we need to address, and in a collaborate fashion, because there are not resources in Indian country for prevention and education. I do work very closely with the health department here in ND regarding these things. I have also signed a letter with the State School of Science of Whapeton, who is trying to get a Federal Grant to do some of this also for out reach and target prevention. In different ways I try to bring these to people's attention to the right agencies, services and programs to help them connect in Indian country. Getting the statistics for just ND is quite difficult to compile.

Representative Wald: Are you satisfied, or are your expectations met with the money going to the Indian people from gaming? Do you think it is all that it was cracked up to be. Are we really helping Indian people? Is the money really going to the people that need it?

Cynthia Mala: (1120) I am a member of the Spirit Lake Tribe. One of the most enlightening aspects of the tribal communities today, especially in ND in fact is the gaming. I know it is very controversial, but when you off set that with people going to work, being very proud of going to work, and you can see the hope in their eyes about providing for themselves and their families. We are training our people, yes, specifically to gaming, to being a clerk, or a floor walker or what ever, service industry type of profession. Many of them are also looking at future. They can become managers, CPSA's, take over the accounting systems. From that aspect I see it as a positive. We have put over 2500 people to work at the ND casinos. My tribe has funded with casino profits, an ambulance service and a fire department. We also have just established an education fund for Tribal education programs. I can say I have seen the success of that. We are

