

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 21, 2011

The Honorable Arne Duncan  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary Duncan:

As you make difficult budget decisions for Department of Education programs for the remainder of FY 2011, we urge you to continue funding the Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institutions (TCPCTI) program at \$8.162 million, the amount appropriated by Congress in FY 2010 and requested by the Administration in FY 2011. The program has provided crucial educational assistance to our constituents and helped advance President Obama's goal of making the United States the world leader in college graduates.

The TCPCTI program has been authorized (20 U.S.C. 2327) since 1990. Congress most recently reauthorized the program in Section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-270). Since its enactment, the program has received the support of both Democratic and Republican administrations in budget requests. As this letter demonstrates, the program also receives bipartisan support in Congress.

The Department of Education has awarded TCPCTI funds to United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) and Navajo Technical College (NTC). The program has provided a critical source of core funding for UTTC and NTC. These institutions are not part of state higher education systems and do not receive state-appropriated operational funds; this federal grant is vital for the operations of these institutions.

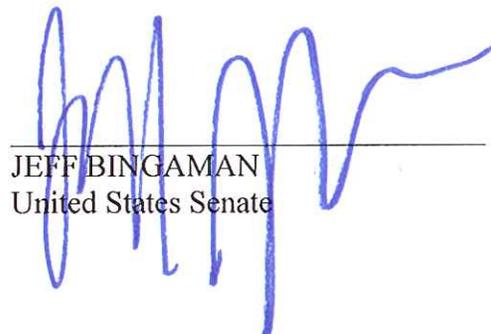
UTTC and NTC are two components of a broader tribal college and university system that aims to train a workforce for tribal communities that have experienced devastating poverty for decades. We urge the administration to continue its investments in higher education – and colleges targeted at tribal communities – by providing \$8.162 million for the TCPCTI program in FY 2011.

Sincerely,



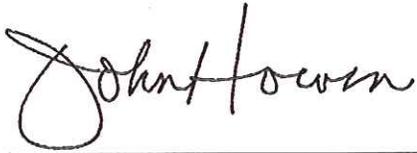
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KENT CONRAD  
United States Senate



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JEFF BINGAMAN  
United States Senate



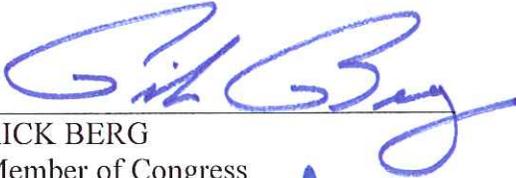
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JOHN HOEVEN  
United States Senate



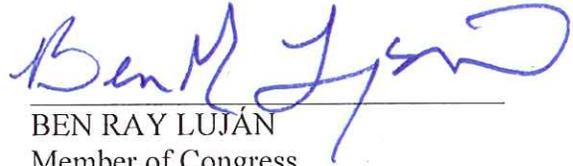
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TOM UDALL  
United States Senate



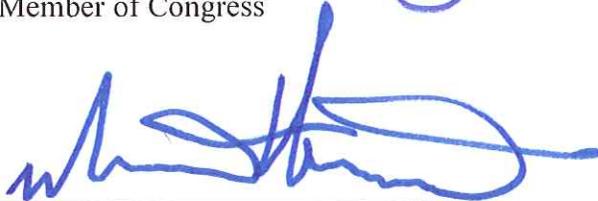
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RICK BERG  
Member of Congress



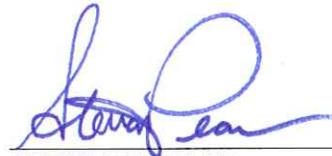
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BEN RAY LUJÁN  
Member of Congress



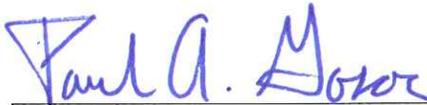
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MARTIN HEINRICH  
Member of Congress



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STEVE PEARCE  
Member of Congress



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PAUL GOSAR  
Member of Congress