



Honorable Barbara Cegavske
Nevada State Capitol Building
101 North Carson Street, Suite 3
Carson City, NV 89701

December 6, 2021

Dear Secretary Barbara Cegavske,

We are writing on behalf of Nevada's Tribal Nations, Native voters, and community-led organizations committed to ensuring that elections are safe and accessible to all Nevada voters. On August 4, 2021, the Nevada Indian Commission, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Walker River Paiute Tribal member, Tribal Minds, All Voting is Local Nevada, and State Innovation Exchange attended a meeting with your staff and presented a list of asks put forth by the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada in this [factsheet](#) that would expand access to voting and voter registration to Nevada's Tribal Nations and Urban Indian voters. Currently, none of the organizations have received a response to the asks we laid out in the meeting and factsheet.

It is imperative that your office provides guidance to Nevada's Tribal Nations and Urban Indian voters on our recommendations. We are asking for guidance and answers to the asks stated below:

1) Public List of Tribal Nations

- The Secretary of State should keep an updated list of Nevada's Tribal Nations already eligible for a polling place and add tribes that apply for polling locations. This list should be held on the Secretary of State's public website to create transparency and accountability to the Nevada Native communities.

2) Tribal Nations Drop-Off Boxes

- The Secretary of State offices should order an additional 27 additional drop boxes to their drop-off box vendor order to serve Nevada's Tribal Nations due to the drop-off boxes being ordered by your office over the next few months.

3) Election Officials Guidance & Oversight

- Some of Nevada's Tribal Nations have expressed that there has been little effort from election officials to inform them about requesting a polling place. There are also concerns about election officials providing more voting and voter registration access to predominantly white communities than Nevada's Tribal Nations.
- There is an expectation that Nevada's Tribal Nations should have equal access to voting and voter registration as the predominantly white communities and be informed by their county clerks and registrars about Nevada's elections.

4) Tribal ID Guidance

- Tribal IDs are an accepted form of ID in the state of Nevada. Tribal members have to follow strict requirements to get these ID's and each Tribe provides each member with a specific identifiable number. We hope that adding Tribal IDs to the voter registration online website as an accepted ID can be done within a reasonable timeframe.
- Please issue guidance about the process to add Tribal IDs to the online voter registration website.

5) Tribal Polling Place Request Form

- In our August meeting, there was confirmation from your staff that the polling place request form would be modified to include drop-off boxes. The request form and the deadlines on your Tribal Nation webpage have not been updated to reflect the newly updated deadlines from the passage of AB 321.
- We ask that the form and deadlines be updated immediately, given the short time frame for Nevada's Tribal Nations to request polling locations and drop off boxes for the 2022 primary elections.

We know you are dedicated to protecting the freedom to vote for all Nevadans, and we urge you to take further action to engage and inform Nevada's Tribal Nations and Urban Indian voters. Nevada voters deserve clear and direct information from your office, and our organizations expect

a timely response to the above concerns and the asks we have laid out. The Native American community has suffered voter disenfranchisement for far too long, and it is past time that election officials do more for this community than the bare minimum.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions, you can reach me by calling 775-225-9135.

Sincerely,

Kerry Durmick
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Serrell Smokey, President
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
