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National Indian Education Association (NIEA) To Advocate For Native Students and Communities During Hill Week 2023

Washington, D.C., February 28th – The National Indian Education Association (NIEA) will bring together American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian members in Washington, D.C. in March to advocate for Native education priorities, emphasizing the importance of Education Sovereignty for all Native communities.

“There has never been a better time to be Indigenous in this country,” said Diana Cournoyer (*Oglala Sioux Tribe*, Executive Director of NIEA). “We’re excited to bring together so many passionate individuals to talk about the future of education sovereignty, and the paths forward to support our students and communities.”

NIEA’s 2023 Hill Week, will take place March 7-9 in Washington, D.C. where NIEA members and attendees will hear from seven current members of Congress, and representatives from the Department of the Interior, the Department of Education, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Key speakers at NIEA’s Hill Week 2023 include:

- Representative Mary Peltola (D-AK)
- Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
- Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI)
- Senator Markwayne Mullin (R-OK)
- Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
- Senator Tina Smith (D-MN)
- Representative Betty McCollum (D-MN)
- Dr. Miguel Cardona, U.S. Secretary of Education

Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from several dynamic panel discussions, including one on Post-Secondary Native Pathways featuring representatives from the American Indian College Fund, the Cobell Scholarship, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, the Native Forward Scholars Fund, and the College of Menominee Nation.

NIEA will also celebrate the passage of the Durbin Feeling Native Languages Act and the Native American Language Resource Center Act and gather with our partners to promote our collective ongoing efforts to preserve Native languages at a Native Language Reception. This reception will be held on Tuesday, March 7 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the National Museum of the American Indian on the 4th Floor.

For more information on the 2023 NIEA Hill Week agenda, visit NIEA's website [here](#).

For all press inquiries, please contact press@niea.org.

The National Indian Education Association (NIEA) advances comprehensive, culture-based educational opportunities for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. NIEA was formed in 1969, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, by Native educators who were anxious to find solutions to improve the education system for Native children.