

(B) a descendant of the aboriginal people who, prior to 1778, occupied and exercised sovereignty in the area that now comprises the State of Hawaii, as evidenced by—

- (i) genealogical records;
- (ii) Kupuna (elders) or Kamaaina (long-term community residents) verification; or
- (iii) certified birth records.

(2) Native Hawaiian community-based organization

The term “Native Hawaiian community-based organization” means any organization that is composed primarily of Native Hawaiians from a specific community and that assists in the social, cultural, and educational development of Native Hawaiians in that community.

(3) Native Hawaiian educational organization

The term “Native Hawaiian educational organization” means a private nonprofit organization that—

- (A) serves the interests of Native Hawaiians;
- (B) has Native Hawaiians in substantive and policymaking positions within the organization;
- (C) incorporates Native Hawaiian perspective, values, language, culture, and traditions into the core function of the organization;
- (D) has demonstrated expertise in the education of Native Hawaiian youth; and
- (E) has demonstrated expertise in research and program development.

(4) Native Hawaiian language

The term “Native Hawaiian language” means the single Native American language indigenous to the original inhabitants of the State of Hawaii.

(5) Native Hawaiian organization

The term “Native Hawaiian organization” means a private nonprofit organization that—

- (A) serves the interests of Native Hawaiians;
- (B) has Native Hawaiians in substantive and policymaking positions within the organization; and
- (C) is recognized by the Governor of Hawaii for the purpose of planning, conducting, or administering programs (or portions of programs) for the benefit of Native Hawaiians.

(6) Office of Hawaiian Affairs

The term “Office of Hawaiian Affairs” means the Office of Hawaiian Affairs established by the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

(Pub. L. 89–10, title VII, §7207, as added Pub. L. 107–110, title VII, §701, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1941.)

PART C—ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION

§ 7541. Short title

This part may be cited as the “Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act”.

(Pub. L. 89–10, title VII, §7301, as added Pub. L. 107–110, title VII, §701, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1942.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions naming former part C (§7931 et seq.) of subchapter IX of this chapter as the “Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support and Assistance Act” were contained in section 7931 of this title, prior to the general amendment of subchapter IX by Pub. L. 107–110.

A prior section 7541, Pub. L. 89–10, title VII, §7301, as added Pub. L. 103–382, title I, §101, Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 3739, set forth findings and purpose of emergency immigrant education program, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107–110. See section 6961 of this title.

§ 7542. Findings

Congress finds and declares the following:

(1) The attainment of educational success is critical to the betterment of the conditions, long-term well-being, and preservation of the culture of Alaska Natives.

(2) It is the policy of the Federal Government to encourage the maximum participation by Alaska Natives in the planning and the management of Alaska Native education programs.

(3) Alaska Native children enter and exit school with serious educational handicaps.

(4) The educational achievement of Alaska Native children is far below national norms. Native performance on standardized tests is low, Native student dropout rates are high, and Natives are significantly underrepresented among holders of baccalaureate degrees in the State of Alaska. As a result, Native students are being denied their opportunity to become full participants in society by grade school and high school educations that are condemning an entire generation to an underclass status and a life of limited choices.

(5) The programs authorized in this part, combined with expanded Head Start, infant learning, and early childhood education programs, and parent education programs, are essential if educational handicaps are to be overcome.

(6) The sheer magnitude of the geographic barriers to be overcome in delivering educational services in rural Alaska and Alaska villages should be addressed through the development and implementation of innovative, model programs in a variety of areas.

(7) Native children should be afforded the opportunity to begin their formal education on a par with their non-Native peers. The Federal Government should lend support to efforts developed by and undertaken within the Alaska Native community to improve educational opportunity for all students.

(Pub. L. 89–10, title VII, §7302, as added Pub. L. 107–110, title VII, §701, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1942.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7542, Pub. L. 89–10, title VII, §7302, as added Pub. L. 103–382, title I, §101, Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 3739, related to State administrative costs, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107–110. See section 6962 of this title.

§ 7543. Purposes

The purposes of this part are as follows:

(1) To recognize the unique educational needs of Alaska Natives.

(2) To authorize the development of supplemental educational programs to benefit Alaska Natives.

(3) To supplement existing programs and authorities in the area of education to further the purposes of this part.

(4) To provide direction and guidance to appropriate Federal, State and local agencies to focus resources, including resources made available under this part, on meeting the educational needs of Alaska Natives.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title VII, §7303, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title VII, §701, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1943.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7543, Pub. L. 89-10, title VII, §7303, as added Pub. L. 103-382, title I, §101, Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 3739, related to withholding, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 107-110. See section 6963 of this title.

§ 7544. Program authorized

(a) General authority

(1) Grants and contracts

The Secretary is authorized to make grants to, or enter into contracts with, Alaska Native organizations, educational entities with experience in developing or operating Alaska Native programs or programs of instruction conducted in Alaska Native languages, cultural and community-based organizations with experience in developing or operating programs to benefit Alaska Natives, and consortia of organizations and entities described in this paragraph to carry out programs that meet the purposes of this part.

(2) Permissible activities

Activities provided through programs carried out under this part may include the following:

(A) The development and implementation of plans, methods, and strategies to improve the education of Alaska Natives.

(B) The development of curricula and educational programs that address the educational needs of Alaska Native students, including the following:

(i) Curriculum materials that reflect the cultural diversity or the contributions of Alaska Natives.

(ii) Instructional programs that make use of Native Alaskan languages.

(iii) Networks that introduce successful programs, materials, and techniques to urban and rural schools.

(C) Professional development activities for educators, including the following:

(i) Programs to prepare teachers to address the cultural diversity and unique needs of Alaska Native students.

(ii) In-service programs to improve the ability of teachers to meet the unique needs of Alaska Native students.

(iii) Recruitment and preparation of teachers who are Alaska Native, reside in communities with high concentrations of

Alaska Native students, or are likely to succeed as teachers in isolated, rural communities and engage in cross-cultural instruction in Alaska.

(D) The development and operation of home instruction programs for Alaska Native preschool children, to ensure the active involvement of parents in their children's education from the earliest ages.

(E) Family literacy services.

(F) The development and operation of student enrichment programs in science and mathematics that—

(i) are designed to prepare Alaska Native students from rural areas, who are preparing to enter secondary school, to excel in science and math;

(ii) provide appropriate support services to the families of such students that are needed to enable such students to benefit from the programs; and

(iii) may include activities that recognize and support the unique cultural and educational needs of Alaska Native children, and incorporate appropriately qualified Alaska Native elders and seniors.

(G) Research and data collection activities to determine the educational status and needs of Alaska Native children and adults.

(H) Other research and evaluation activities related to programs carried out under this part.

(I) Remedial and enrichment programs to assist Alaska Native students in performing at a high level on standardized tests.

(J) Education and training of Alaska Native students enrolled in a degree program that will lead to certification or licensing as teachers.

(K) Parenting education for parents and caregivers of Alaska Native children to improve parenting and caregiving skills (including skills relating to discipline and cognitive development), including parenting education provided through in-home visitation of new mothers.

(L) Cultural education programs operated by the Alaska Native Heritage Center and designed to share the Alaska Native culture with students.

(M) A cultural exchange program operated by the Alaska Humanities Forum and designed to share Alaska Native culture with urban students in a rural setting, which shall be known as the Rose Cultural Exchange Program.

(N) Activities carried out through Even Start programs carried out under subpart 3 of part B of subchapter I of this chapter and Head Start programs carried out under the Head Start Act [42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.], including the training of teachers for programs described in this subparagraph.

(O) Other early learning and preschool programs.

(P) Dropout prevention programs operated by the Cook Inlet Tribal Council's Partners for Success program.

(Q) An Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement program.