

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
For Release January 17, 1977

Lovett 343-7445

## F.Y. 1978 BIA BUDGET REQUEST SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has requested an increase of \$64.4 million in appropriated funds for fiscal year 1978. The Bureau's request submitted January 17 to Congress as part of the President's budget, asks for \$842.3 million. This includes \$654.7 for the operation of Indian programs: \$87.2 million for the construction of irrigation systems, buildings and utilities; \$70.3 for road construction, and \$30 million for payments under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Federal funding for these purposes in fiscal year 1977 was \$777.9 million. The 1978 fiscal year begins October 1, 1977 and ends September 30, 1978.

For Indian Education programs a total of \$245.5 million -- an \$8.8 million increase -- was requested. This includes \$36.5 million for higher education assistance grants for some 17,400 Indian college students.

The request for \$173.9 million for Indian services provides for increases in funding for grants under the Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, assistance to tribal governments and social services. An apparent reduction in law enforcement funding was caused by the transfer of about \$3 million in program costs for tribal judicial services to the tribal government services category.

The expiration of funding authorization for the Indian Business Development Program, under the Indian Financing Act of 1974, is reflected in the drop in funding of about \$6.8 million requested for economic development and manpower programs. This Act provided for funding only through 1977. There will also be a reduction in funding of the Indian Action Team programs, for which a \$6 million Congressional add-on was received in 1977.

Almost \$50 million, an increase of more than \$10 million, was requested for Natural Resources Development. About \$7.6 million of this increase will be used for mineral inventories and development planning of reservations with high energy resources development potential. Increases of \$2.6 million are proposed to strengthen other conservation and development programs in accordance with tribal priorities.

(more)

The \$30.8 million requested for programs to carry out the Federal trust responsibility to Indian tribes includes funds for activities to implement the Judge Boldt fishing rights decision in the Northwest. A total of \$4.1 million has been requested for this purpose.

A major new thrust in this year's budget request for Indians is a significant acceleration in constructing and rehabilitating Indian irrigation projects. An increase of \$14.4 million is requested for this purpose. Of the \$44.4 million total, \$25 million is for continuing construction on the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project.

Other construction projects for which \$25.3 million will be required are: Sherman Indian Boarding School, California; Standing Rock Boarding School, North Dakota; Jemez School, New Mexico; Haskell Indian Junior College, Kansas; Lower Brule School, South Dakota; Napakiak School, Alaska; Pine Ridge Rehabilitation Center, South Dakota and an Administration Building at the Fort Hall Agency, Idaho.

Funds in the amount of \$11.3 million have been requested for public school construction needs under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

A breakdown of appropriations requested for fiscal year 1978, and comparable figures for 1977, is attached.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
1978 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTED  
(IN MILLION DOLLARS)

	FY 78	FY 77
School Operations.....	174,171	166,269
Johnson O'Malley Educational Assistance...	31,542	31,452
Public School Support.....	-	-
Continuing Education.....	<u>39,754</u>	<u>38,962</u>
EDUCATION.....	<u>245,467</u>	<u>236,683</u>
Tribal Government Services.....	19,498	11,442
Social Services.....	79,953	71,935
Law Enforcement.....	23,521	26,136
Housing.....	16,827	15,335
Self-Determination Services.....	<u>34,136</u>	<u>31,957</u>
INDIAN SERVICES.....	<u>173,935</u>	<u>156,785</u>
Business Enterprise Development.....	9,113	12,342
Employment Development.....	45,887	51,050
Road Maintenance.....	<u>12,520</u>	<u>10,874</u>
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MANPOWER PROGRAMS.....	<u>67,520</u>	<u>74,266</u>
Forestry and Agriculture.....	37,824	35,263
Minerals, Mining, Irrigation and Power....	<u>11,964</u>	<u>4,392</u>
NATURAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT.....	<u>49,788</u>	<u>39,655</u>
Indian Natural Resource Rights Protection.	11,666	7,955
Real Estate and Financial Trust Services..	<u>19,093</u>	<u>18,206</u>
TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES	<u>30,759</u>	<u>26,161</u>
Management and Administration.....	12,036	11,270
Program Support Services.....	3,430	2,251
Facilities Management.....	<u>71,805</u>	<u>69,675</u>
GENERAL MANAGEMENT AND FACILITIES OPERATIONS.....	<u>87,271</u>	<u>83,196</u>
OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS.....	<u>654,740</u>	<u>616,746</u>
Irrigation Systems.....	44,377	-
Buildings and Utilities	42,870	-
Public School Construction	-	-
CONSTRUCTION		77,101
Liquidation of Contract Authority.....		
Budget Authority.....		
ROAD CONSTRUCTION.....	<u>70,335</u>	<u>39,075</u>
REVOLVING FUND FOR LOAN		
LOAN GUARANTY.....		<u>15,000</u>
ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS (Appropriated).	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST.....	<u>842,322</u>	<u>777,922</u>