Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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FLAGSTAFF, AZ —Government-to-government tribal consultation will occur Friday, July 20, 2012 in Arizona regarding a proposal that would help the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) achieve the objectives of President Obama's Executive Order 13592 concerning improving educational opportunities provided to American Indian and Alaska Native students.

The proposal would allow BIE to utilize an accountability system based on a unitary set of academic standards and assessments in the BIE-funded schools, rather than the current system that is based on 23 states' standards and assessments. In February 2012, the U.S. Department of Education began granting flexibility waivers from the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) to 19 states. Eighteen additional states and the District of Columbia have submitted flexibility waiver requests with decisions expected soon. In exchange for these flexibility waivers the states have agreed to implement bold reforms around standards and accountability, which include raising standards, improving accountability, and generally implementing essential changes to improve teacher effectiveness. The Department of Education's decision to provide these flexibility waivers followed extensive efforts to work with Congress to amend requirements that the NCLB introduced into the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The ESEA is five years overdue for reauthorization.

More information and materials can be found at: http://www.bie.edu/consultation/index.htm

WHO:	Dion Killsback, Counselor to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, DOI Brian Drapeaux, Chief of Staff to the BIE, DOI Tribal Leaders from the Southwest Region and other regions
WHAT:	Tribal Consultation on the BIE ESEA Flexibility Request.
WHEN:	Friday, July 20, 2012 Registration will begin at 7:00AM (local time) Consultation will begin at 8:00AM
WHERE:	Little America Hotel 2515 E. Butler Avenue Flagstaff, AZ 86004 (928) 779-7900

CREDENTIALS: All media must present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver's license) and valid media credentials.

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