



# BLACKFEET NATION

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TIMOTHY F. DAVIS – CHAIRMAN  
ILIFF “SCOTT” KIPP, SR. – VICE CHAIRMAN  
LAUREN MONROE, JR. – SECRETARY  
TINSUWELLA BIRDRAITLER – TREASURER

## BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

TIMOTHY F. DAVIS  
ILIFF “SCOTT” KIPP, SR.  
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VERA A. WEASELHEAD  
MARK E. POLLOCK  
MARVIN WEATHERWAX, JR.  
VIRGIL LASTSTAR

## RESOLUTION

### **Support Congressional Efforts to Pass Legislation approving the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act and Bolstering Initiative**

No. 71-2022

**WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Nation pursuant to Section 16 of Act of June 18, 1934 and Amendments thereof, and

**WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, protect and advance the views, interests, and resources education and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Article II and Article VI, Sec. 1 (g), of the Blackfeet Constitution and Bylaws, the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has the power manage tribal affairs in an acceptable and businesslike manner, and

**WHEREAS,** Assimilation and “civilization” processes against Native Americans, such as the Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices, were adopted by the United States to strip American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children of their Indigenous identities, beliefs, and languages; to assimilate them into non-Native culture through federally funded and controlled Christian-run schools, which had the intent and, in many cases, the effect, of termination, with dire and intentional consequences on the cultures and languages of Indigenous Peoples, and,

**WHEREAS,** More than 100,000 American Indian and Alaska Native children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in any of 460 Bureau of Indian

Affairs-operated schools, including at least 367 known Indian boarding schools, often church-run, at which assimilation and “civilization” practices were inflicted on those children as part of the federal government’s goal of advancing eradication of Indigenous Peoples in the United States, and

**WHEREAS,** The United States Indian Boarding School policy’s deliberate intent was to separate Native American children from their families, cultures, communities, and Tribal Nations through removal and reeducation, and

**WHEREAS,** Holy Family Mission Boarding School and Willow Creek School were located here on the Blackfeet Reservation and many Blackfeet children were sent there, and these boarding schools were places meant to strip our tribal children of their identity, language, culture, sense of self-worth, and family structure, and

**WHEREAS,** Many Blackfeet children were sent to boarding schools outside the boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation such as Fort Shaw, schools that also served to deprive our tribal children of their identity, language, culture, sense of self-worth, and family, and

**WHEREAS,** The 2018 *Broken Promises Report* published by the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights reported that American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples continue to experience intergenerational trauma resulting from experiences in Indian boarding schools, which divided families, undermined cultural and societal structures, damaged Indigenous identities, and inflicted chronic psychological damage to American Indian and Alaska Native children and families, and

**WHEREAS,** Indian Boarding School policies have had lasting negative impacts on our Nation, and have drastically reduced our community’s language fluency, and limited many of our families’ social cohesion and advancement, and

**WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Nation seeks truth, justice and healing for survivors and victims of Indian Boarding Schools, and

**WHEREAS,** Congress has introduced legislation titled: To establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices in the United States, and for other purposes, the Act may be cited as the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices Act”, and

**WHEREAS,** The purposes of this Act are to establish a Truth and Healing Commission (Commission) on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices in the United States to formally investigate and document, for the first time in history, the



attempted termination of cultures and languages of Indigenous Peoples, assimilation practices, and human rights violations that occurred against American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through Indian Boarding School Policies in furtherance of the motto to “kill the Indian in him and save the man”; and to formally investigate and document the impacts and ongoing effects of historical and intergenerational trauma in Native communities, including the effects of the attempted cultural and linguistic termination of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, resulting from Indian Boarding School Policies, among other things, and

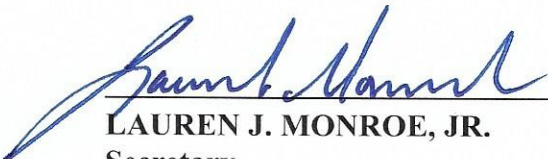
**WHEREAS,** The Commission’s main role is to develop recommendations on actions the federal government can take to adequately hold itself accountable for, and redress and heal, the historical and intergenerational trauma inflicted by the Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

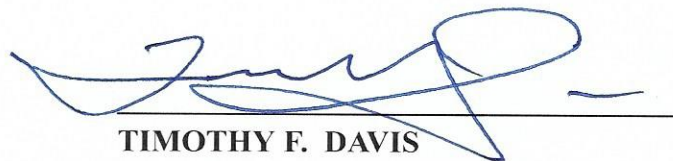
1. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council hereby supports Congressional efforts to pass legislation approving the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies and Practices Act and bolstering initiatives, and subsequent recommendations, to hold the federal government accountable for, and redress and heal, the historical and intergenerational trauma inflicted by the Indian Boarding School Policies and Procedures.
2. That the Chairman or Vice-Chairman in the Chairman’s absence and Secretary of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council are hereby authorized to sign this Resolution and any other documents to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

**ATTEST:**

**THE BLACKFEET TRIBE OF THE  
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION**



**LAUREN J. MONROE, JR.**  
Secretary



**TIMOTHY F. DAVIS**  
Chairman

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council in a duly called noticed and convened General Session assembled for business the 4th day of October, 2021, with Eight (8) members present to constitute a quorum and by a vote of Eight (8) For, Zero (0) Opposed and Zero (0) Abstained.

(SEAL)

  
LAUREN J. MONROE JR., Secretary  
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council