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GENERAL MEMORANDUM 26-050

Draft of the FY 2027 Senate Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill Released

On November 12, the Senate Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee released its draft FY 2027 report. The table compares proposed funding for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), and Indian Health Service (IHS) with FY 2026 enacted levels (P.L. 119-74), the President's FY 2027 budget request, and the House committee report. The FY 2027 figures are proposals, not final appropriations; Congress must resolve House-Senate differences before a full-year bill can be enacted. Current funding runs through December 11 under a continuing resolution (C.R.). Congress could extend temporary funding with another C.R. or fund the rest of the fiscal year through full-year appropriations bills, passed individually or in a minibus or omnibus package.

Account	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 House Report	FY 2027 Senate Report
BIA	$2.49 billion	$2.11 billion	$3.21 billion	$2.03 billion
BIE	$1.36 billion	$929.8 million	$1.55 billion	$1.4 billion
IHS	$8.12 billion	$8.98 billion	$8.69 billion	$8.4 billion

BIA. The Senate report lists $2.03 billion for BIA. Within the detailed accounts, it proposes $58 million for water settlements, compared with about $1 million enacted in FY 2026, and a $17 million increase for real estate services. It also calls for Tribal consultation on rising fuel costs and action on law-enforcement vacancies and probate delays, with additional funding for efforts addressing missing and murdered Indigenous people.

BIE. The Senate proposal maintains BIE at $1.366 billion, the FY 2026 enacted level. The report directs BIE, BIA, and the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs to develop a ranked list of schools needing replacement. It also requests information on Native language and culture programs, staffing, teacher pay, and Tribal college facilities, and calls for coordination with IHS on preventive health services in schools.

IHS. The Senate proposal provides $8.402 billion for FY 2027, about $353 million above FY 2026, and $5.39 billion in advance funding for FY 2028. It increases several clinic and facilities accounts, including hospitals and clinics, dental health, and sanitation facilities. Reported estimates for Contract Support Costs, which help cover Tribal costs of administering federal programs, and Section 105(*l*) leases for Tribal facilities are $1.731 billion and $720

million. Both accounts remain available at the amounts necessary to meet the federal government's legal obligations, so the estimates do not cap payments.

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