1 \_\_\_\_\_ TRIBAL CONSULTATION MEETING -- MAY 4, 2012 The Tribal Consultation Meeting in the above-entitled matter occurred at the Holiday Inn Rapid City-Rushmore Plaza, Rapid City, South Dakota, on Friday, May 4, 2012, before Susan A. Seliga of Capital Reporting Company, beginning at 8:15 a.m.

1 2 3 APPEARANCES 4 5 Mr. Dion Killsback, Counselor 6 Office of Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs 7 Ms. Kallie Hanley, Senior Advisor, Office of Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs 8 9 Mr. David Talayumptewa, Assistant Deputy Director for Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs 10 Mr. Brian Drapeaux, Chief of Staff, Bureau of Indian Education 11 Ms. Roxanne Brown, Associate Deputy Director - East, BIE 12 13 Mr. Jeffrey Hamley, Associate Deputy Director, DPA, Bureau of Indian Education 14 Mr. Weldon (Bruce) Loudermilk, Acting Deputy Assistant 15 Secretary for Management 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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1 CONTENTS 2 Page 3 JOHNSON-O'MALLEY STUDENT COUNT UPDATE, MS. ROXANNE 4 BROWN..... 4 DRAFT SF-242B ASSURANCE STATEMENT, MR. DAVID 5 67 TALAYUMPTEWA..... 6 7 A T T A C H M E N T S 8 Statement of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association on the proposed BIA/BIE streamlining, May 3, 2012, Rapid 9 City, SD 10 Johnson O'Malley Program Statistics for Public JOM Schools 11 for CY05 to CY12 12 May 2, 2012 proposal for a partial realignment that is believed to save funding, Pierre Indian Learning Center 13 Testimony on No Child Left Behind for Standing Rock Sioux 14 Tribe 15 Press Release and Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, 12/12/86 16 Letters dated 5/3/12 to Mr. Del Laverdure and Mr. Keith O. Moore from Mike Faith, Vice-Chairman, Standing Rock Sioux 17 Tribe 18 19 20 21 22 23 \_\_\_\_\_ 24 NOTE: Original transcript to be filed with Department of 25 the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

4 1 PROCEEDINGS (Convened at 8:15 a.m.) 2 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Good morning. Thank you 3 for being here so early today. We'll begin this 4 5 morning, and the session will end no later than noontime. But we have the Johnson-O'Malley Student 6 7 Then we have the Draft Assurances for Count update. the 100-297 Grants. And we're going to start with the 8 Johnson-O'Malley this morning. The Bureau is seeking 9 10 tribal input on updating its count of students 11 eligible for Johnson-O'Malley Program funding. 12 And we're here to get that input on how 13 should the Johnson-O'Malley Count be conducted and 14 which students should be counted. And by that we mean 15 which years count, would you like us to look at. 16 In the House Report 112.151 accompanying the 17 Department of the Interior's fiscal year 2012 appropriations, the following direction on the JOM 18 19 student count was provided. Congress directed the 20 Bureau of Indian Education, in consultation with tribes and the United States Department of Education, 21 22 to update its count of students eligible for the 23 Johnson-O'Malley Program funding and to report the 24 results to Congress. 25 In addition, the committee directed the

Bureau to reestablish the full-time, permanent Johnson-O'Malley Coordinator position that was terminated in 2005. The Bureau of Indian Education requests your input as to where this position should be located.

6 So those are the two questions before us 7 According to the 25 CFR 273.1, the this morning. purpose of the JOM program is to meet specialized and 8 9 unique educational needs of Indian children attending public and some tribal schools through the use of 10 11 supplemental education programs. Such supplemental 12 programs are designed at the local level under the 13 purview of a local Indian Education Committee. 14 Eligible JOM contract applicants are states, school 15 districts, tribes, tribal organizations and previously private schools. 16

Eligible students are age three through grade 12 enrolled in public schools, and previously private schools, except those enrolled in BIE-funded and sectarian-operated schools. Such students must be a member of a tribe or at least one quarter or more degree of Indian blood and recognized by the Secretary of the Interior as eligible for BIE services.

A little bit on the history: Prior to 1995,
the respective education line officers collected the

1 names of the JOM tribes, or contractors, and the names of the JOM students to be served with their birth 2 dates and a certification statement from the 3 contractor that the students listed met the JOM 4 5 eligibility requirements. The tribes, contractors and number of eligible students to be served were sent to 6 7 BIE Central Office, and a national JOM student count listing was created. 8

9 In 1995, both the House and Senate directed 10 the BIA to determine each tribe or contractor's 11 recurring base funding level by way of a formula in 12 consultation with tribes, and transfer the JOM funds 13 from the other recurring programs budget category into 14 each tribe or contractor's base funding within the 15 tribal priority allocations, or TPA budget category.

House Report 103-551 and Senate Report 103-294 contain specific language regarding the transfer of the JOM program. With the transfer of the JOM base funding level to each tribe/contractor in 1995, there was no further need for an annual JOM student count for purposes of distributing the Johnson-O'Malley funds.

In 1995, the BIA conducted the last JOM
student count for purposes of a final distribution of
the JOM program funds. The final 1995 JOM student

count listed 271,884 students. 1 And as you can see there, looking at the 2 percentage of growth every year, it's expected that 3 the number will be close to or exceeding 500,000 4 students if we take the count from the 2011-2012 5 6 school year. 7 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Is that the most current numbers, 1995? 8 9 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: That's the most current. That was the last count. 10 11 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: What will it take to 12 update it? 13 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Excuse me, Jesse. The 14 format is the same as yesterday. We have this being 15 recorded. So if you could state your name and who you 16 represent just for record-keeping purposes. That way 17 we make sure that who said what when we go back and review the record. 18 19 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Okay. Thank you. 20 Will do, Dion. Jesse Taken Alive. I guess the 21 concern I have with that is, we're looking at archaic 22 numbers. Okay. The reason I say archaic is because 23 the population is increasing. The budget stays the 24 same, and inflation is going up. So that's why I'm 25 calling it archaic. Because we know that what was

1 available in terms of dollar-wise in '95 isn't 2 available now. And we know for sure that in the year 3 2012, which we are in, the numbers are far more than 4 that.

5 So I think it's somewhat, with respect to 6 your presentation, misleading to say that these 7 numbers, 271,884, are the most current that you have. Because if we don't address that or make that a point, 8 9 then we continue on, and maybe ten years from now, we'll be looking at 2000 numbers, not -- not to be 10 11 disrespectful or facetious. Because if what's being 12 postured here is that you're going to use this, the 13 record will show you presented that to us. And the numbers are 271,884. And another half-truth that 14 15 we're -- we're very frustrated upon hearing.

16 So I think with regard to this, well, I 17 would have to object on behalf of Standing Rock until 18 we get more current numbers, which may result in the 19 rest of your presentation being skewed because we 20 don't have at least 2000 numbers, or at least 2000 21 head numbers. The reason I say that again is 22 populations, of course, are taken every ten years, and 23 for sure we probably got something in place. So I 24 don't know why. Maybe you could share with us, ma'am, 25 why -- why the numbers are so -- so old, and as I

1 said, archaic, so...

2 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Okay. Congress requests And one of the reasons we're 3 updated student counts. convened here today in these consultations is to hear 4 5 from you how you would like that process to proceed. 6 We're asking for an updated student count. And one of 7 the proposals, if you agree, would be to take the count from the 2011-2012 school year. 8 There is no The last official count nationally was 9 posturing. done in 1995. And that's the numbers that were 10 11 reflected. We expect, with the percentage of growth 12 that has occurred over those six years, that we will 13 probably have 500,000 or more students in this next There is no promise of more funding at this 14 count. Our directive was to request an updated 15 point. 16 student count.

17 Well, I'm going to MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 18 ask then, why can't we have one? What policy 19 prohibits that updated count? I mean, come on, 20 it's -- we're talking about budget decreases, et 21 cetera. Then we're looking at a student count 22 officially of 17 years ago. That's absolutely wrong. 23 And you've just been given a copy of our relatives 24 who -- in the JOM program from the Oglala Reservation. Why can't you do an official nationwide count? 25 What,

10 1 is it policy, is it budget that's preventing that? 2 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: We're asking to do that 3 now, --MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 4 Why now? 5 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: -- Mr. Taken Alive. 6 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Why not in 2010? 7 Why not 2005? MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Congress has that 8 9 authority. 10 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So unless Congress 11 says, count the students, you can't count. You can't write a letter and ask for this number that's just 12 13 been given to you (indicating). That's not doable. 14 Is it a policy issue? 15 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Brian Drapeaux, BIE. We're here as a result of congressional action asking 16 us to update the count. 17 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: And we're here to 18 19 oppose that, Brian. 20 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: That's fine. 21 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: I know it's fine. 22 You don't have to tell me. 23 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: It's what I want to 24 say. 25 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: This is -- this is

1 absolutely wrong, Brian. I mean, we can see this. It's just like saying, you know, these Indians were 2 back on the Reservation on Standing Rock in 1873, so 3 let's go with that. Let's see how they -- I mean, 4 5 what kind of numbers they have. And it's very 6 disrespectful to do this, Brian. This is for the 7 This is Jesse Taken Alive. record. I mean, if you -if you have to sit and wait for Congress, that means 8 we have to sit and wait for Congress. Right? 9 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: That's correct. 10 11 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: That's correct. So 12 where is the freedom in this then? This is supposed 13 to be a free country. Why can't you just write a letter off the record or however you want to do it. 14 Ι 15 mean, this is -- this is very disrespectful, folks, 16 absolutely disrespectful, for us to look at numbers 17 17 years ago and have this discussion. 18 But I'm not going to belabor the point. I've already expressed my opposition to this. 19 And it 20 is posturing, by the way. It is posture -- because 21 after this, all we're going to hear, if we had more 22 money, if we had more money, if we had more money. 23 You know, so I apologize. I'm not trying to be 24 disrespectful. But I'm looking at the needs of our 25 children in our public schools at Standing Rock who

1 need these funds. And here we are looking at 1995. So the story will be told that unless Congress allows 2 you guys to get updated numbers, we'll go with numbers 3 from 17 years ago. And we have to be satisfied with 4 5 that? Wrong. 6 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Okay. Congress has 7 directed the Bureau of Indian Education to get an updated count. And so what we would like to know from 8 9 you, is the 2011 school year, 2011-2012 school year the count that you agree should be -- should be used? 10 11 Is the end of May a time when you're able to get in 12 the counts to each line office, or to your respective 13 line office, and later get the names, birth date and 14 the certification statement to the line officer? 15 Those are the questions that we're asking. 16 The second question is: If the 17 Johnson-O'Malley Coordinator position is to be 18 restored, where do you see that being located? 19 MR. JOHN YELLOWBIRD STEEL: Thank you. My 20 name is John Yellowbird Steel, Oglala Sioux Tribe. 21 And to begin this session on behalf of Great Plains, I 22 just have to say that we do not consider this proper 23 consultation. Once again, you have not got our input 24 to come here with a plan that we are -- our ideas are 25 part of the agenda to be discussed. It's only your

1 agenda, your point of view, your plan. And so there 2 are specific applicable laws. I again cite our I again cite our Indian Self-Determination 3 treaties. Educational Assistance Act. And these are specific 4 5 laws along with the Executive Order of the President 6 that we need to be included in anything that's going 7 to affect us.

I would like to ask a question here. 8 Do you understand the difference between self-governance and 9 direct service tribes? And that is your 10 11 self-governance office funded by self-governance 12 funds, such as the -- is your self-governance office 13 considered an inherent federal function, or have they taken those self-governance tribes, their shares, 14 15 completely except for those inherent federal function 16 positions? Because you are funded by direct service 17 tribes' shares. The Oglala share funds you, your 18 position, you're part of that herd that didn't reach 19 the reservation that the government -- our share of 20 monies. And in them taking their shares from the 21 Central Office, only certain positions up there can deal with those tribes. And you do meet with them and 22 23 listen to them, give them extra monies that they have 24 compacted or contracted those authorities from your 25 office. JOM in your paperwork here says that \$17

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1	million \$13 million goes to direct service tribes
2	and \$7 million goes to self-governance tribes. So are
3	you an inherent federal function of the Federal
4	Government, my question, or have they compacted their
5	share of you, your position, and you're still dealing
6	with them with our supposed money shares? Do you
7	understand what I'm talking about?
8	MR. DION KILLSBACK: I'm going to interject
9	here for a little bit. I think that, you know,
10	Chairman Steel, President Steel, I think you raised
11	several questions. And I think that, you know,
12	they're the same questions that were raised yesterday.
13	And so I think just so we have an understanding, and
14	it may be a little redundant, but the Department of
15	Interior through its consultation policies that have
16	been developed over the past three years through
17	consultations across the country and through meetings
18	with tribes, including tribes in this region, in
19	December of 2011, the Secretary of the Interior,
20	through Secretarial Order, adopted a formal
21	Department-wide consultation policy. And this
22	consultation from the DOI's perspective is in
23	accordance with that Secretarial Order and consistent
24	with the notice, the 30-day notice in the Register, as
25	well as the Dear Tribal Leader Letter that went out.

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1	And this consultation is the fourth out of the seven
2	that are to be conducted. And information was
3	provided to the regions and to the agencies. And
4	information that was not at that time had been
5	supplemented on the Internet at the BIA website.
6	And I think yesterday Director of Field
7	Operations from the BIA presentation, he said it very
8	eloquently that we respect the tribal leaders and
9	their understanding that this is not consultation, and
10	that they don't
11	MR. JOHN YELLOWBIRD STEEL: Speak up so the
12	court reporter can hear you, please.
13	MR. DION KILLSBACK: I think the court
14	reporter can hear me fine. Otherwise, she would tell
15	me. But that statement laid the groundwork. And so
16	part of today's discussion is a continuance of the BIE
17	section. And what the BIE is asking is, through a
18	directive from Congress, in order to formulate and get
19	an adequate count, the directive is the BIE, through
20	consultation with tribes, in order to get an adequate
21	count. That's the purpose of this.
22	And also yesterday I think we talked a
23	little bit about the division within the Department
24	and within Indian Affairs regarding BIA funds and BIE
25	funds. BIA funds are in a realm where direct service

tribes and compact tribes receive their funding.
Whereas, the BIE receives their funding in a
different -- a different format that doesn't
necessarily deal with distinguishing between compact
tribes, self-governance tribes, and direct service
tribes, or tribes that 638 contract and that utilize
agencies and regions.

So today's discussion is a request from the 8 Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Education to 9 get input regarding the numbers that are to be used in 10 11 order to develop a plan. And the plan is not -- is 12 not being implemented. The reason for these 13 discussions, as part of these seven, is to gather 14 input from tribal leaders so that we can -- we can 15 learn from tribes on how the numbers are gathered 16 and then figure out the path forward for addressing the concerns that Congress sees have hindered the JOM 17 18 program.

And so when questions about whether or not Roxanne or Brian or David are in a fashion where you're asking them personally, it may come across that way. But I think what you're asking is whether or not them, in their official capacity as Bureau of Indian Education employees and representatives, have personal knowledge on the extent of the impact of budget

constraints. And how that affects Indian Tribes is a 1 2 valid point. That may not be necessarily the exact purpose for the discussion today. And I want to make 3 sure that we understand and respect that viewpoint, 4 5 because I think yesterday's theme that we are here to address the concerns for Indian children across the 6 7 board, and that budget constraints, budget cuts have an effect, and it's an effect that isn't necessarily 8 conducive of success. 9

But what we can do, and what we're asking 10 here today to do, is to look at one aspect right now 11 12 where we are being directed by Congress to say, in 13 order to improve the JOM funding, what do we need from The BIE needs to know how many Indian tribes? 14 15 children are being affected, could be affected, so we 16 can develop a plan to formulate a more effective approach for getting money to those Indian children in 17 18 Indian Country.

And so I think that when we are here, we want to make sure that we understand that. And if we are coming across like we don't, I'm going to apologize for that. But at the same time, we have -we have a responsibility and this is where we can really work together to make some headway. And the folks here, like Roxanne and Dave,

are in positions where we can address a specific issue 1 and do it in a manner that will foster further 2 dialogue and for the time, but not in a vacuum, but 3 collaboratively with tribal leaders like yourself and 4 tribal leaders from the other six different regions 5 where we'll be visiting. 6 And so the reason I say that 7 is, I know there's frustration, and there has been frustration, and there probably will continue to be 8 frustration. And I think if we can focus on a little 9 10 bit more of the substantive aspect of it, of getting 11 the numbers, we can really make some headway in this 12 part. And it's not going to be perfect. It's not --13 it's not going to solve all the problems. But it's 14 what we can do, it's what we can work on right now.

15 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Dion, if I could 16 respectfully ask a question. Jesse Taken Alive from 17 Standing Rock. You want numbers, okay? You want a 18 request from the tribes to update the numbers. How 19 do -- how do we do that? You know, it's so simple. 20 Please update the numbers so they're current with this 21 year, okay? That's for the record. That task has 22 been accomplished. Everybody wants that. But 23 frustratingly, as you pointed out, disrespectfully as 24 we've pointed out, why couldn't we have done that 25 within the last 17 years? And you've told us Congress

1 is doing that. Why didn't -- did you have to get 2 permission from Congress to ask us to update the It's so painstakingly frustrating. 3 numbers? And this whole process, Dion, is about 4 5 interpretations of common law, okay? And in this 6 case, we understand where you're coming from, what you got to do, the bureaucracy of it all, the scripts that 7 you all learned on how to present this information to 8 tribal governments. And we're here hoping that you 9 will exercise your inherent personal tribal 10 sovereignty, personal tribal sovereignty, to make 11 12 these changes without waiting for Congress to say, 13 Okay, my children, ask the Indian doctor if they want updated numbers. That's -- that's the picture that's 14 15 being painted for us. And common law is riddled with 16 interpretations. And you've given us your 17 interpretation. Now I don't know if that's shared by 18 your colleagues or not. But the innuendo to say that 19 things are personal is somewhat true, because we 20 believe that, as tribal members, respectfully from 21 where you're all coming from, you still carry that 22 inherent sovereignty. 23 And that's where the frustration begins. Тο 24 see the simple task of not putting these numbers in 25 for the last 17 years is frustrating for us to see.

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1	But as we understand the bureaucracy and how you all
2	must follow the chain of command, upper level, lower
3	level, all that kind of disrespectful talk that goes
4	on, and we see it from Indian Country, this is where
5	that frustration begins. It's not an attack on you
6	all. This is this is the core of it.
7	You mentioned vacuum, okay? You don't want
8	to operate in a vacuum. For 17 years, if you haven't
9	been able to get numbers, you've been operating in a
10	vacuum, waiting for permission from Congress to ask to
11	get numbers updated. I mean, it's a it's a
12	travesty to our children to see this kind of thing go
13	on.
14	Right now collectively, the system called
15	bureaucracy, where the BIE is in, doesn't know what
16	the needs of Indian children are. I mean, you can
17	articulate, and you can probably pass all the tests
18	about how to operate as a BIE employee, and we'll
19	respect you for that. But what we're asking is, how
20	does this affect on the ground, out in the
21	communities, that little boy and girl sitting in the
22	classroom today? How does that help it? It doesn't.
23	And you're talking to us like like you're supposed
24	to, of course. It's scripted. You're doing what
25	you're supposed to do. And you're going to take these

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1	back. And maybe of all the hundreds of
2	recommendations that you're going to hear, maybe
3	thousands, you're going to appease and attempt to
4	placate Indian Country by putting one or two in
5	because the policy, as you interpret, won't allow.
6	What are the options for where the Director's position
7	should be located, JOM?
8	MS. ROXANNE BROWN: We're asking you.
9	MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So you're asking a
10	question and answering it with a question again. It's
11	really frustrating. I just if we said, put it on
12	Standing Rock, what is the feasibility of that?
13	MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Let me if I can, Brian
14	Drapeaux. This particular position and the request by
15	Congress to update the count and to also talk about
16	the Director position, one of my questions to our
17	staff was: In the past, has the BIE been able to use
18	funding from JOM to establish the Director position?
19	And the answer is no. And that in the past, when
20	there was a position in Washington, D.C., that that
21	position was funded through Education Program
22	Management funding, which is Department of Interior
23	funding. So there are budget implications to this
24	question as well and what we're looking at, the 2013.
25	And so what we hope to do today is to try to
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1 understand what it is that, you know, the fields' 2 thought is.

I mean, what we found in the other three 3 consultations, or discussions, has been that there's 4 5 an overwhelming support for JOM, and an overwhelming 6 need for JOM, and that people are frustrated that there hasn't been a count since 1995. 7 And so we feel fortunate, again fortunate, to be here today to talk 8 about updating the count through congressional 9 inquiry, and that we will, after all of our rounds are 10 completed, will conduct some sort of survey about, you 11 12 know, how to -- not survey, but some sort of count on 13 moving this endeavor forward to -- yes, to appease 14 Congress, I mean, quite frankly, and also to appease the field. 15

16 I mean, I'm a JOM kid. JOM bought my 17 basketball shoes. I mean, I understand. I worked for 18 a JOM program. I mean, I understand the impacts and 19 the power of these programs in the schools 20 specifically. And so we're as frustrated as you are, 21 frankly, because the national JOM organizations come 22 to us. They ask us questions: Why? When? Where? 23 How? And they're all great questions. And we're 24 challenged with, like it or not, the responsibilities 25 of formulating a budget, putting forth our best effort

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1 to serve Indian Country and meet the needs of Indian Country as well as the desires of Congress, the 2 So it's a balancing act for 3 Department, OMB and up. us, there's no doubt. 4 You're asking specifically, why haven't we 5 6 taken on Congress as an individual Indian, as an inherent person who has rights as a tribal person. 7 That's a pretty loaded question, I think, and one that 8 I take very seriously, as you know. But I will say 9 that, on behalf of the folks sitting at this table, 10 11 that I feel very confident, as well as our staff in 12 the crowd, that I feel very confident and good about 13 the efforts that are being made on behalf of Indian Country by this team in regard to that question. 14 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 15 Brian, let me say this. 16 17 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: And --18 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Excuse me, Brian. 19 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Of course. 20 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: I'm going to go --21 Jesse Taken Alive again from Standing Rock. I'm going 22 to go home, and one of the victories that I'm going to 23 tell our people with a discussion with regard to the 24 BIE, one of our victories, I'm going to say, is after 25 17 years, we're going to see a formal request, an

1 increase of JOM count. 17 years to do that. And all 2 we had to say to BIE was, increase the numbers to the 3 current data. That's a victory then. That's what 4 you're telling me.

5 But, I mean, I don't want to belabor the 6 point, Brian. But you certainly can understand, we're 7 We're here for our children. not here for you or me. And this is what's so blatantly disrespectful, to know 8 9 that -- to not try to move forward on this. And I'm 10 trying to understand bureaucracy. And right now the 11 only thing I can understand about it is headache and 12 disrespect for American Indians. So but that's --13 that's what I'm going to take home, is that one of the 14 things we really accomplished in the meeting in Rapid 15 City, South Dakota on May 4th is that we -- we asked the BIE to increase its numbers for JOM. And the 16 17 victory is that yes, we will, and it took 17 years.

18 The rest of the story is a vacuum. Why 19 couldn't we have done it last year, et cetera, all the 20 way back to '96? That's the -- that's what we need to 21 take home then, Brian. I mean, after all this 22 gathering and meeting after 17 -- and I'm certain that 23 the JOM staff that's in the audience or that are going 24 to hear this, or have heard it, feel just as 25 frustrated. But let's not rest our laurels on

1 frustration. The personal, respectful spirit of It's a spirit, your spirit, my 2 sovereignty is that. And that's what we -- that's what we entrust 3 spirit. 4 you to continue to carry on as our ancestors did. But always have the truth, Brian. So that's what I'm 5 6 saying. I'm not challenging you to do anything that 7 would cause to you lose your job. All I'm saying is, remember that sovereignty. It's in you. 8 It's not because somebody said it. It's not because the BIA 9 wrote it down and said it is. It's been there for 10 11 well over centuries. 12 So, Brian, let's -- let's not do any more 13 pretenderlizing (phonetic) anymore. We understand all these verbiages about increasing the numbers. 14 It's --15 it's frustrating. MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: There's also a 16 technical component as well. So as much as I 17 18 appreciate your thoughts, there's a -- there should be 19 a technical, or there will be a technical piece to it 20 with potential implications. And so that's really 21 what we hope to get to the heart of as well today, is 22 the technical component, the how's and the why's and 23 the implications of the how's and why's when we get a 24 count. There's some concern expressed in the field in 25 the past about, you know, is the money just going to

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1	get no increases and just spread out to a larger
2	field? Is there going to be a reallocation if there's
3	more students in one location and less students in
4	another? Are we going to lose money, or are others
5	going to gain money? So there are some implications
6	that in a practical sense that people need to think
7	about and provide input on, because that's the other
8	important piece to this. And so I'll stop my comments
9	there, and recognize Mr. President Bordeaux.
10	MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: Good morning. I think
11	I'm stuck with that mike that won't work.
12	Good morning. Good morning, everyone.
13	(Simultaneous "Good mornings".)
14	MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: I'm Rodney Bordeaux,
15	President of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. And I offer
16	this consultation in regard to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe
17	and the Johnson-O'Malley Program. I have a long
18	history of working with the Johnson-O'Malley Program
19	going back to 1978 when I was hired by the Rosebud
20	Sioux Tribe as the JOM Coordinator. And I worked in
21	that position, in that capacity, the JOM in higher
22	education, up to about 1997 when I got on the Tribal
23	Council. I was involved with a lot of parents, parent
24	committees. I got to know all the parent committees
25	on the Rosebud Reservation. We worked with parents in

the former Rosebud Reservation. We still call it our 1 2 territory, our reservation; five-county area: 3 Gregory, Bonesteel, Tripp County, Mellett County and Todd County. We have well over, I would like to say, 4 close to about 3,000 students, JOM. And we work with 5 6 around six school districts, the Head Start Program. 7 And there's a lot of strength within this 8 Johnson-O'Malley Program, a lot of parental involvement, real strong. And it's kind of the link 9 that the Indian community has with the public schools 10 11 on the reservation. 12 But you can -- the Johnson-O'Malley Program 13 needs to be reestablished as a stand-alone program and funded within the elementary and secondary education 14 15 programs, but as a -- as a source of funding that does 16 not need to take money away from ISEP. The student count needs to be reinstated, and the process that we 17 18 used back in the day should be reinstated. That gets 19 all the parents involved, the tribal enrollment 20 offices involved, the schools involved. 21 And what that JOM Program does, it just kind 22 of tightens up the school district. And when they 23 made these changes, I see where Congress made these 24 changes, basically it just took away that parental 25 involvement. The public schools utilize an area

1 district-wide. Let's see, I'm going to use Todd We have about eight elementary schools, a 2 Countv. middle school and a high school. And we have a 3 resource center, which is basically special ed 4 5 And they have a parent committee. students. So a lot 6 of involvement there. But when they broke this down 7 and disestablished JOM as it was, we lost all those parent committees. They did one central one. 8 They combined it with, I think, the Title VII Parent 9 It was not very effective at all. 10 Committee. It gave 11 more authority back to the school districts. They could spend it the way they want. And it needs to get 12 13 back to the way the intended program was, where the parental -- the parents had -- the parent committees, 14 the Indian education committees had total control 15 16 basically.

17 Any budgets, all budgets have to be approved 18 by the parent committee, signed off the JOM 19 application. And it needs to be restored probably at 20 least, beginning probably about at least \$30 million. 21 But I would really like to get the support 22 and advice from the National JOM Association because I 23 know they have all the figures available. And I may 24 be short on that. But I would like to, if you got the 25 data from them as to the annual allocation for the JOM

1 Program, I would like to respectfully request that you you get that number from them. 2 I was part of the creation of the National 3 Johnson-O'Malley Association. We had tribes from 4 5 Oklahoma, the Navajo Nation, the Pine Ridge A good friend of mine, the late Charlie 6 Reservation. 7 (Boy) Pourier, was very instrumental in creating this national JOM Program, this association. 8 9 We went to Washington on numerous occasions. 10 We lobbied Congress, a lot of grandparents, parents. 11 And this was basically what saved JOM. And I think 12 there has been a downfall of that program, I quess 13 probably because they weren't listened to. JOM has 14 always -- we always had to resurrect that program. 15 But we do really need a coordinator, and 16 possibly, probably should be stationed in Washington. 17 We don't want them stationed down in the BIA - West because we think that that's just a waste of 18 19 resources, with a generous travel budget, because 20 we're talking about Alaska Natives all the way to all 21 the western states. And there will probably be more 22 eligible students now with all the tribes getting 23 recognized. 24 So I think we're going to have a tremendous 25 amount of students in the JOM Program. Let's not

1 forget the grant and contract students or the schools. 2 And I've seen since I got on the Tribal Council and President of the Tribe a loss of 3 supplemental funding, education funding, funding for 4 5 these schools. For example, Bonesteel is on the 6 eastern end of our reservation. Probably have about 7 close to a hundred students there. Our poverty level is so high on the Rosebud Reservation that I think 8 9 we're the second poorest county in the nation. So that attributes the loss of parental support costs, 10 11 such as was mentioned, buying tennis shoes, school 12 supplies. We have a lot of requests for 13 graduation-related activities, whether the cap and gown; education assistance to go on field trips, 14 15 educational field trips. So the need is tremendous out there. It hasn't -- it hasn't died down. 16 I get a lot of calls into my office for student needs, such as 17 18 this, from -- and going all the way to the eastern 19 part of the reservation, Corn Creek and Norris area. 20 There's always a need for a JOM Program. So it really 21 needs to be reinstated, funded adequately, as a 22 stand-alone within -- within that budget. 23 I know we're going to take some cuts. But I 24 think we need to push that, and you need to request 25 that. And we can do the lobbying that we need to

1 reestablish that program as it once was. Because you 2 were a JOM student. I wasn't. Well, I probably was. 3 But back then JOM had basic support, which is public And Pat Abada (phonetic) kind of eventually took 4 law. 5 over the Johnson-O'Malley operational support with a 6 lot of schools on the reservation. They paid for 7 building development. And then it was -- it went down 8 to supplemented educational assistance. At one time we used to get \$144.00, I think that was the highest, 9 10 per student. And now I believe it's down to about 80, 11 \$80.00. I seen Neva (phonetic) here earlier. Neva 12 (phonetic), is it down to about \$80.00 a student now, 13 or sixty? 14 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE VOICE: Sixty. MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: 15 Sixty, yeah. So over 16 the years it's gone down. So we need to beef it up to 17 the point where we can have a true count for our 18 Indian students. Because our Indian populations are

19 growing, and if we're stuck with that figure from way 20 back in the late '90s, it's not a true picture of what 21 our students' needs are. And the allocation, we need 22 to bump -- bump it back up, because it does provide a 23 quality service. It keeps the kids in school. It's a 24 strong parental involvement program. They're really 25 recognizing it in the public schools. So you take

1 that away and you lose that, you lose that parental 2 connection, and you lose that strength that Johnson-O'Malley has, each community. 3 I've seen a lot of leaders develop and come 4 5 out of those parent committees, lot of council reps. 6 There's probably some of them getting ready, doctors, kids that -- doctors, lawyers coming out of the 7 schools I've seen. I got a lawyer back here, tribal 8 attorney on Rosebud. He was a JOM student. And he 9 was in the Warner School District. He got educated, 10 11 graduated out there. I know he got assistance from 12 the Johnson-O'Malley Program. So it's a -- it 13 provides that impetus, that little strength, that little shove that gives that student that self-esteem 14 15 to, you know, continue on so they can compete with the 16 non-Indian, the ones that are well off. 17 So my recommendation and my consultation to 18 you is that it should be restored like it used to be 19 back in the early '90s, the intent of it, the true 20 intent of JOM. And I'll do the lobbying for it. You 21 just get the money, put that dollar amount. And let's 22 move forward. And get ahold of the National JOM 23 Association and get -- get their recommendations, 24 their -- I know they want it reinstated, refunding. 25 They want the funding really increased. So I think it

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1	would probably be at least \$40 million. But I just
2	wanted to offer that. It's a good program, and let's
3	do it. Thank you.
4	MR. RANDAL WHITE: Can I comment? Can you
5	hear me?
6	MR. DION KILLSBACK: No.
7	MR. RANDAL WHITE: Now can you hear?
8	MR. DION KILLSBACK: No.
9	MR. RANDAL WHITE: Good morning. My name is
10	Randal White. I'm from Standing Rock, Councilman.
11	Also, I wanted to mention that, I guess listening to
12	Roxanne, she said, Let Congress know it. On behalf of
13	the Standing Rock, we have nine schools out there.
14	Standing Rock Grant Community School has 843 children.
15	And we have eight other schools, and also we have our
16	own Sitting Bull College, and we have ten Head Starts,
17	eight of them in the communities, and we have two Head
18	Starts in Long Soldier community. It's our main
19	area.
20	I guess today I wanted to share because
21	those numbers are growing. They're growing. And
22	every day I taught at Head Start in Porcupine,
23	North Dakota. And boy, it's good to see those
24	children come in there. And I got three-year-olds.
25	And boy, to see a man teacher, I guess, as a role

1 model to be a father figure, a lot of times a lot of our relatives are missing that father figure. 2 But I 3 quess I just wanted to share that with you. Because there's a lot of the Native Americans going into 4 5 education. And it's really important that we put 6 money in there, especially this JOM, because that funds some positions that people want to go into those 7 I guess, so I just wanted to take that time. 8 jobs. 9 Also, we talked about this Bronner study. You guys, Congress spent \$650,000. Gee, we'd love to 10 give \$650,000 to Standing Rock so that we could give 11 12 you the numbers and do the study. I think the rest of 13 the tribes, like, feel the same way, is to get \$650,000, so that that could go to education. 14 So when 15 you ask us, I mean, that's why we're so frustrated when we see \$650,000 going to a study that the 16 Northern Great Plains Tribes weren't included. 17 And 18 I'm glad to see consultation because it's really 19 frustrating. I'm glad. Thank you for my remarks. 20 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Thank you. And we're here on the last slide. And we see what the proposed 21 22 funding is for 2013 for Johnson-O'Malley. We know 23 it's a struggle every year in the budget. 24 MR. CHRIS BORDEAUX: Good morning. 25 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Morning.

1 MR. CHRIS BORDEAUX: Good morning. There we 2 ao. My name is Chris Bordeaux. In the early '80s, I was living here in Rapid City. And they did not have 3 the Johnson-O'Malley Program here. They had it in the 4 5 '50s, in the '60's. They lost it in the '70s. And I was the Chairman of the JOM Board. And I was Chairman 6 7 of the Title IV Board. And we wanted to bring -wanted to bring JOM back there to Rapid City. So I 8 9 worked with Charlie (Boy) Pourier and Bernie Weaver (phonetic), and we got JOM back up here in Rapid City. 10 11 And it made such a difference. There was a 85 percent truancy rate at 12 13 Central High School. So we went out door-to-door and 14 found out that the only reason the children were being 15 truant is they didn't have money for P.E. That was 16 the only reason. So we put money into P.E. And I 17 think somebody -- I think David or Brian said 18 something about, buy their shoes for them. And that's 19 what we did. And by the end of the year, the truancy 20 rate was at 30 percent. Back then I think it was --21 we got \$200.00 per student. 22 We also started a banquet, which now is a 23 big powwow, for Stevens and Central High School 24 graduates. We started that back then. 25 Johnson-O'Malley is such an important program. And I

think bringing these -- finally, like Jesse said, 1 finally bringing these enrollment -- how many children 2 are out there who are in need are important. 3 The one thing I've seen in Johnson-O'Malley 4 5 over the years is that they take it out of the budget. 6 Everybody fights and fights to put it back in. But 7 we're all glad when it gets put back in. But when it does get put back in, it's cut, and it's cut, and it's 8 And I think bringing these -- how many children 9 cut. we have out there in need will only help. That's all 10 11 I wanted to say. Thank you. MR. JOHN YELLOWBIRD STEEL: John Yellowbird 12 13 I got my JOM Director here, couple words. Steel. 14 MS. RAMONA PEDREGON: (Native language) day, 15 everybody. My name is Ramona Pedregon. I'm the 16 Program Director for the OST Johnson-O'Malley Program. 17 And I'm glad to see that you guys are all here interested in Johnson-O'Malley. 18 19 I handed out some statistics. I started in 20 the Directorship in 2007. But I'd like to ask you 21 some questions also. When we do our contracts every 22 year, we put our student counts in them. When we do 23 our annual reports, we put our counts in those. So to 24 me, I want to ask where are those numbers going? And 25 we're required to submit those.

1 And also the National JOM, I'm a big 2 supporter of that. I also was representing our We give -- we work all -- Virginia Thomas is 3 region. the President. And we do provide her with numbers 4 5 every year. So she would be a person, the National 6 JOM would be a person to have at this table. But 7 again, we do put our numbers and our contracts in our annual reports. 8

9 I'd just like to point out a couple points With the Johnson-O'Malley Program not 10 to you guys. 11 increasing in funding, it's kind of left us tribes in 12 two positions: either refuse to provide services for 13 any children in excess of the number funded in 1995; 14 to provide services to all eligible children, but 15 dilute the number and types of services to reflect that same need that was unfunded. 16

17 And we don't want to leave any children out. So we dilute the services. And a lot of tribes are 18 19 able to kick in, but our tribe is not. We have a lot 20 of needs that are unmet. I'll give you some 21 scenarios. We have a lot of grandparents raising 22 grandchildren on our reservation. And a lot of these 23 schools are off the rez at public schools that we go 24 visit. And there are grandparents that come to us 25 with food bills in the amount of seven-hundred-and-

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1	some dollars that we cannot pay because if we paid
2	those, that would wipe out our funding. So those are
3	just kind of some of the things that I would like to
4	bring to your attention, and to let you know that we
5	do give counts. And I did the statistics for you all
6	to see, you know. And I want to thank you for being
7	here and listening to us. So and that's all I have
8	to say. Thanks.
9	MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Thank you.
10	MR. JOHN YELLOWBIRD STEEL: Once again, my
11	name is John Yellowbird Steel. I've got to tell you
12	that we're talking about the TPA. Now, the BIA, not
13	you, but other representatives of the Great White
14	Father came. And they wanted to get new and small
15	tribes some of the programs. They had programs,
16	social services programs. And they tried to divide
17	our TPA monies up so that everybody can have some. We
18	objected. These TPA monies are our historic monies.
19	And why? Because we prioritized the need in that area
20	two years prior to the budget and got them funded
21	under our historic monies. Why would you want to take
22	our historic monies and divide them up to other
23	tribes?
24	Secondly, like yourselves, representatives
25	of the Great White Father came down and wanted to wipe

	3
1	out complete programs of home improvement, social
2	services, to meet the budget cuts. We had to then
3	tell them, Hey, we are taking the brunt of the budget
4	cuts. We've prioritized our historic dollars into
5	those programs because of our need for them. You had
6	better be fair and equitable in your budget cuts, and
7	just spread the budget cuts amongst all the tribes,
8	and leave our prioritized programs alone.
9	I need to tell you that TPA is the basic
10	part of that herd of cattle that Congress sends down
11	here. Be careful, because those are our historic
12	monies, and you cannot take budget cuts and have
13	certain tribes bear the brunt of them. But we do
14	support getting an updated count in JOM, and we do
15	support getting the coordinator position.
16	MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: Yeah. I'd like to
17	give the floor over to Lori Bouza from the White Bear
18	School District.
19	MS. LORI BOUZA: Thank you for the
20	opportunity to talk to you about the JOM Program on
21	behalf of the White Bear Community School students.
22	The White Bear Community School District is broken up
23	into four schools: the primary school, which is 73
24	percent Native American; elementary grades one through
25	four, 67 percent Native American; middle school,

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1 grades five through eight, 63 percent; and the high 2 school, grades nine through 12, 41 percent; for an 3 overall percentage of 63 percent Native American 4 students.

5 We're concerned about the drop in our percentage at the high school level. And JOM has been 6 7 an integral part of changing this. Our data shows 8 that the poverty presents a huge challenge to our 16 percent of our students live with other 9 parents. 10 than their parents. And a high percentage of the rest 11 of the students live with a single parent and extended 12 family. And this presents a lot of economic 13 challenges that can be met through the JOM Program.

14 Academics are a huge part of school success, as we all know. But extracurricular activities also 15 16 play a part in student success. JOM assists with our 17 Learning Center. 85 percent of the students that stay 18 for Learning Center are passing in reading and math. 19 And the extracurricular that's provided through our 20 JOM funds: the band instruments, dual-credit courses 21 so they get high school and college credit; camps, 22 such as music; academics; sports and sports supplies; 23 shoes; cheerleading supplies; and all the things that 24 go along with sports.

We know that involvement in our sports and

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1	extracurricular activities raised and I don't have
2	the statistics going back to '95. I started with the
3	program in 2000. So that's what I'll speak from. In
4	2000, we had about 84 participants that were Native
5	American in all of our extracurricular activities. In
6	the year 2010, we raised that to 220 participants.
7	That's a huge percentage. And that's a direct result
8	of the JOM Program. Involvement translates into
9	better academic success because grades must be
10	maintained in order to continue in those sports, which
11	is what a lot of kids want to do.
12	So you can see the impact that we that
13	the JOM Program has had since the year 2000, and you
14	can also see it when you attend events. The makeup of
15	the audience has drastically changed in our school
16	district. We're seeing a combined crowd, which is a
17	welcome sight.
18	This part of our program is critical. Last
19	week a grandparent caught me in the parking lot. I
20	was leaving school, and they were coming to pick up
21	their granddaughter. And she talked to me about how
22	much it meant to her to be able to have those funds to
23	help pay for her granddaughter's sports supplies. And
24	when our rule is they complete the sport, they get
25	reimbursed. So she's just rolling each sport over

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1	into the next. She paid for the initial, and then JOM
2	reimburses her every time. And she is ever so
3	grateful. And I told her that's a direct result of
4	the Johnson-O'Malley Johnson-O'Malley Program. And
5	this will be relayed to our Native American Education
6	Committee, who is involved in represented and
7	elected by the parents. And they're focused on
8	student success.

9 That's a quick background of our program. 10 So you can understand my thoughts on your consultation 11 questions. Our JOM account changed from our 2000 12 count of 327 to last year's count of 452. That's an 13 increase of 125 students, which is significant.

14Title VII asks for a yearly count. And they15base the funds for Title VII on that count. Title I16goes through census. And either of those would be an17accurate or more current way to support the program.18The eligibility rule for JOM we believe is working,19and our school district believes there is no change.

The reestablishing of the JOM Coordinator, and thank you for clarifying that that wouldn't come out of JOM funds, because that was a major concern for us. Our school has a practice of not taking administer fees out of any of our grants. So maximum dollars go to students.

43 1 In summary, JOM is crucial. The impact is high on our students and their families. 2 The count should be updated to reflect current numbers, and 3 there should be a process installed to keep it more 4 The eligibility rules for JOM we feel are 5 current. 6 acceptable at this time. And the position of the 7 coordinator, we're in support of as long as those dollars don't come from JOM funds. 8 I'd like to thank Chairman Bordeaux and I'd 9 like to thank you for allowing me to speak and share 10 11 my thoughts on JOM. 12 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Thank you. 13 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Okay. Do we have any 14 other comments? 15 MR. MIKE FAITH: Good morning. (Native 16 language.) Mike Faith, Standing Rock Vice Chairman. 17 Good morning. I'd just like to speak briefly on JOM. 18 Again, Mr. White did mention we have schools out 19 there, and they're really mixed from Catholic to 20 public to BIA to grant. But, you know, six of those 21 schools do have JOM funding with them. And again, 22 keep in mind, there's a lot -- lot of Native students 23 in there. They're going to run from 85 to 99 percent. 24 More and more of these public schools are becoming 25 Native students in there. Lot of people are moving

1 off. Non-tribals are moving out. But I just want to -- I need to apologize 2 for running a little late here. I got down late last 3 night. And apparently there was comments made 4 yesterday from other individuals. 5 But again, the importance of JOM is there. 6 7 It's needed. All these students are enrolled either in their -- in their reservations. They do have 8 numbers identified. 9 One of the things I want to -- want to 10 11 discuss, and I'll keep it brief here because I know 12 you guys are busy. Been here two days now, going to 13 be two days. But the importance of our -- our area 14 offices are -- and I can only speak for Standing Rock. 15 They're really important to us. Technical assistance, 16 it's there. They help us a lot with preserving, 17 pointing the right direction for grants. And the 18 bottom line, once you get that money, it helps the 19 students succeed. 20 We at Standing Rock, we cannot support recommendations by the Administration making these 21 22 cuts. You know, although, you make some modest 23 increases within the BIE as far as tribal grant 24 support, colleges, universities, scholarships, adult 25 education, special ed, you know that comes with --

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1 that comes with a minus of ISEP funding. You hit ISEP with a \$4.5 million dollar reduction. You know, our 2 students are going to -- the most important right now. 3 And you got to please, take that message back. 4 Βv cutting the schools, that's the government's -- you 5 6 know, that's the -- you know, you're putting money 7 into college and stuff, that's fine. That's great. But at the mercy of \$4.5 million to ISEP funding, it 8 9 doesn't look good on the Bureau or the BIE.

I know you asked about insurances. 10 You 11 know, that really needs to be clarified. Because when 12 you go grant, them insurances are -- you have to sign 13 those. And if they're not being adhered to, then 14 people need to come to us, or either let the line officer know. 15 And I'll tell you what, our line 16 officer up at Standing Rock does a real good job of 17 telling us, you guys need to step up, you need to do this and that. 18

Like I said, the importance -- and again, I don't know about -- you know, you mentioned retirement, voluntary separations. You know, I don't think at Standing Rock we have that age yet. I think our group is fairly young. They're ambitious, and I feel that they're capable of helping us out to succeed with our self-determination under the grant.

1 So again, I'm not here -- I really don't 2 want to get -- you guys are here taking the message But, you know, if the BIE/BIA is really setting 3 back. tribes up for failure, you know, you're doing a good 4 5 job at it. We got to remember self-determination, 6 trust responsibility, treaty obligations. 7 I guess that's all I can probably go down right now without taking too much time. But if you 8 would please take that back. Our line office in 9 10 Standing Rock is a -- is a must. And, like I said, 11 none of them are at that age of early-outs or 12 retirement. So if you'd take that back, sure 13 appreciate it. You have a nice day. (Native word.) 14 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thank you. 15 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: The question that 16 was posed, I quess there was two: The first one that 17 was posed was: Where do you want the line -- where do 18 you want the JOM office, Director's Office, to be 19 located? I would suggest and recommend on behalf of 20 Standing Rock, and I hope that my sister tribal 21 governments would concur, especially maybe -- I hope 22 I'm not indifferent to them. Put it in the Great 23 Plains because the cost of living to have offices out 24 in the Great Plains -- because you're talking about 25 budget concerns. Constraints, the cost of living in

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1 the Great Plains is -- makes sense as opposed to out east where the cost of living is way too high. 2 The other reason to put the Director's 3 Office in the Great Plains is that's centrally 4 5 located. Again, it would further cut costs. The cost 6 to fly out east, north, wherever, could be essentially 7 the same as opposed to the high cost out in D.C. plus the distance to travel, if necessary. 8 That's a 9 response to your question. Secondly, the word, the understanding that 10 11 Congress allows you now to ask for increases is 12 something that we will share with the congressional 13 The understanding that we have is that the BIA folks. 14 wasn't allowed to ask for increases or use numbers 15 only up until 1995. That message will be shared with 16 Congress. And as was articulated today, use existing 17 numbers. You've heard from some of the -- two of the 18 Directors. They are sending the numbers to you. That 19 also will be shared with Congress. And I know our 20 Department at Standing Rock, to be compliant because 21 of assurances that we signed, do do those reports that 22 do have numbers. That permission will be sent to 23 Congress as well. 24 So for the record, again, use the current

24 So for the record, again, use the current 25 numbers for JOM. You've heard the reasons why. And I

1 know there are -- there are more. So on behalf of Standing Rock, I would -- I'm making these -- these 2 positions known to you. And again, this is not 3 consultation, not at all. 4 Thank you. 5 MS. ROXANNE BROWN: Thank you. Further 6 comments? 7 MS. BEVERLY TUTTLE: That list that you took 8 around, is that going and concurrent to be signed? Because we have some protocol there. But I quess 9 since it looks like you're asking for comments, I'll 10 11 be up next. I'm going to say (Native word) day to 12 everybody here. 13 (Native language.) 14 I want to greet everybody with a warmhearted 15 handshake, as I really start out my day with trying to 16 be exuberant and be energetic in my mind as well as my 17 spirit. And I don't want to say these words as a --18 as a flowery statement. I want to say, my name is Bev 19 Tuttle. And my Lakota name is (Native language), get 20 up early in the morning, woman, and do your business, 21 is really what my spiritual name is. 22 When we sit here -- and I'm a representative 23 of the Oglala Tribe. And again, as previously 24 yesterday I stated, I do not recognize this as 25 consultation because, again, we have so many detailed

1 things that we need to address back on our homelands 2 when we go home because a lot of these things that are 3 coming up to us proposed by you by the streamlining the BIE into the DOI is not something we have truly 4 5 been informed about, just within the past few months 6 maybe. But collectively, every time -- like I said, 7 I've been a school board member for 14 years. And every initiative that comes out, we have to hurry up 8 9 and play catch-up with what the BIE has to make 10 accommodations to meet the big government.

11 I understand that. That's what we're 12 playing here again. We're playing catch-up. We're 13 trying to hurry up and spin our wheels, trying to 14 advocate for programs that dollars have been taken 15 out, like JOM. And also, I'm going to throw in 16 residential treatment centers for our children, who 17 you talked about. Like Mr. Keith Moore, I'm going to 18 reiterate what he told us. We stayed here till 7:30 19 last night to complete our session. Mr. Keith Moore 20 stated that the fact is our children are falling 21 behind. They're dropping out of school. They're not 22 meeting AYP. And that's a fact too, all the tribes. 23 And yes, we do know that. We do know that. We don't 24 need to have to be told.

25 So what I mentioned was the systemic piece

1 that's missing. And I'm glad Dr. Bordeaux is here today because we started to contemplate on how we're 2 going to make a systemic change within our nations, 3 within our tribal nations in this area, to 4 5 appropriately address education with the children who 6 are falling behind, with the children who are dropping out of school. You know, nationally, it's happening 7 all over because there's the thinking of poverty, 8 basically. 9

And I'm going to talk a little above what 10 11 we're talking about right here now, is America 12 generally thinks, you don't make a standard of living, 13 you're in poverty. So Mr. Bordeaux, President 14 Bordeaux, brought up, you know, the poverty, his 15 county, the second one, and the poorest county. Well, I don't think of them like that. I think of them as a 16 17 really resourceful nation with highly educated people from their area. It's the thought. 18 And I think 19 whether we realize it or not, I think the BIE, you're thinking that way too. Think about it. You're just 20 21 following a systemic operation that has not been 22 working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Indian 23 people, direct services to us.

24That's why I'm objecting to this25consultation because we are working diligently with

1 our educators that are in the trenches right now looking at the deficits of the services and monies 2 So we're trying to look at our own Indian 3 taken awav. self-determination, what it means to us. 4 It means to 5 start changing the social environment. 6 You know, our children need to be taught 7 their historical -- their lineage. That's a really 8 high-spirited approach to getting them to believe 9 confidently that they can make it. Many of us sitting 10 here are probably near 60 and over. Maybe some of you aren't, but I'm in that category. 11 I was raised. Ι 12 went to a boarding school all of my entire life from 13 kindergarten to twelfth grade because that was the 14 only choice really I -- my parents had. We didn't 15 have transportation to get to school so -- but you 16 know what, I do not want to repeat that process. 17 Maybe it was good for some of the children who were 18 (Native word), you know, kind of orphaned. But for 19 me, I had both of my parents, but that was the only 20 choice. And I went through hell trying to find out my 21 identity by the time I got to twelfth grade. And I'm 22 going to share personally my own self as to what I see 23 with our children. I was rebellious. I went to a 24 parochial school all my life on the reservation. And 25 clear back into the 1960s, they were still making you

1 cut your hair. So I have a bad nightmare, you know. 2 But yeah, I learned to read and write. Those were the two basic things. And that's what I'm saying. 3 If we can teach our children to learn to read and write, 4 5 they can do anything else. But we're being thrown so 6 many grant opportunities, which enhance us, but by the 7 same token, we're having to fill out all of these bureaucratic applications telling us how to do it. 8 9 I said, you know, way back, being a school board member -- I was looking at my little grandchild, 10 11 if I want to improve schools on the reservation, 12 tribal grant schools, I'm going to put my 13 granddaughter there. I'm one of the grandparents 14 that's raising her grandchild, since she was 18 months 15 old. And I'm going to represent that school, and I'm 16 going to put her in that school. And I'm going to 17 find out what the deficits are myself so I can make it 18 better. I propose -- what I was seeing, all of these 19 reading programs that were coming in there, they 20 weren't working. I said, why -- I went to the school 21 board, and I said -- and the principal, I said, why 22 can't we just still teach the phonetic awareness? 23 Well, we can't. Them teachers believed in it. We 24 have to go by this reading program. But guess what, 25 our children still had to -- there's educators out

1 there. And I was thinking, there's more of the function of what that program, reading -- that reading 2 program wanted to teach the children to get out of it. 3 But was it just simple, being interested to read? 4 5 That's what I see that wasn't there, the interest to 6 read, because they were teaching the documents that 7 were -- that were presented in front of them, that were not of us. 8

9 And I can say that. I have non-Indians -because I did some research on this myself. 10 Until we 11 can take control of how we want our structure of --12 our 638 contract grant schools with Indian 13 self-determination, we can teach our language. And that's why it's so much needed to have our tribal 14 15 education departments because that's where we plant 16 it. And yes, we're not trying to get you out of the business of supporting us with the financial piece 17 because if that's the piece that's going to drive us. 18

And so it looks like right now we don't have -- we got to do either/or. And I think that as tribal leaders, we need to do the basics. And that's to -- and that's what we're moving toward, is to start creating curriculum through our tribal education departments, to start teaching the language in the way that reflects us, the history, the spiritual selves,

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1	holistic learning. A little child learns, first of
2	all: Who are they? Where do they come from? And
3	where are they going? That's what really worries me
4	because we're so systemically connected to something
5	that doesn't probably recognize us. It does it for
6	us.
7	And with that, I just you know, I
8	really I really disagree with Mr. Moore last night.
9	Because it's like, you know what, you guys know you're
10	not making AYP. Your children are dropping out of
11	school. And him as a tribal member, well, we're just
12	going to throw you to someplace else. We're going to
13	throw you to the DOI. That's kind of the impression I
14	got. I was wishing he was here because I really
15	thought about that. I'm not going to throw my tribal
16	children, my great, great grandchildren to the wolves
17	because they're not going to have nothing.
18	Resourcefully, we have everything.
19	And I just want to end with something here.
20	I do not want JOM to go away and get lost. I would
21	like our our people who are in the trenches to be
22	listened to because we've got children up here. So
23	far we have here in Rapid City I was just reading
24	some statistics here. In Rapid City alone, we have
25	2,713 children up here right now. And if the count

	5.
1	hasn't been done since 1990, why, my goodness, what
2	was happening in between that space that's up to now?
3	But we are keeping track of them. So the children up
4	here in Rapid City are being faced with racial issues,
5	as it is. And some of them really don't have the
6	material needs because they have to make it up here.
7	I'm a Tribal Council Member working with so
8	many people that I know that people come to me up
9	here. They need shoes. Graduation is coming. And
10	they only get \$45.00. You know, we've got to think
11	those children are our tribal children from all of our
12	Northern Plains Tribes up here.
13	So I want to express that I do not consider
14	this consultation because there is so much homework to
15	be done. And we could do it, and we could work with
16	you the way we should be working like this.
17	I want to read this, and I'll end here. We
18	had a really strong message that was derived back in
19	1986 from our tribe. And it was a press release. And
20	this is with Ross Swimmer. Remember, his name was
21	brought up yesterday. But we hold this dear to our
22	heart. That's why I'm saying what I'm saying today.
23	For immediate release on 12-22-86.
24	The Oglala Sioux Tribal Health, Education
25	and Welfare Committee and the Tribal Executive

1 Committee, after a special meeting at tribal headquarters has sent the following telegram to Ross 2 Swimmer, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, 3 Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., and the 4 5 South Dakota congressional delegation. The Oglala Sioux Tribe, upon having learned 6 that it is the intention of the Bureau of Indian 7 Affairs through its forthcoming budget presentations 8 to propose to turn over to certain states its 9 remaining education responsibilities, does hereby 10 11 inform you that it will use every means to oppose this 12 plan. 13 We remind you that in June of this year at 14 the ceremonies of the unveiling of the Red Cloud peace 15 pipe at Pine Ridge you specifically pledged the BIA to uphold the 1868 obligations in education and health. 16 17 You are further reminded that the President 18 of the United States has repeatedly pledged in his 19 government-to-government policy statements that there 20 would be involvement and participation in any 21 proposals affecting and of the Indian Tribes of this 22 nation. We demand an immediate repudiation of this 23 24 effort and the assurances of adherence to stated 25 policies of involvement and participation in the

1 forthcoming budget hearings.

Then there's a resolution. 2 I'm not going to read all of it. But it does declare: Whereas, the 3 special relationship between the United States and 4 5 Indian Tribes has been described for over 100 years by 6 the United States Supreme Court as being so unique 7 that nothing like it exists anywhere in the world. I want to -- I want to share that because, 8 9 you know what, talking about the streamlining of the BIA to the DOI yesterday really tells me that, you 10 11 know, it's going to go into another zone somewhere in 12 space where people are uninformed about these 13 That's so scary for me as a Tribal Council treaties. Member when I look at the future of our people. 14 15 It's going to go in another zone because a 16 lot of those people are really, I'll have to tell you, rich, white senators, congressional people, who are 17 18 going to keep us in the poverty. 19 So I really want to say, you know, educating 20 them to the treaties. You people are (Native word). 21 I see you as really poor. You are the ones in poverty 22 because you guys are the ones that have to bow to keep 23 your jobs. If you don't, you're going to get fired.

I pity you because, you know, you're probably feeling some of the things, but you've got to keep yourselves

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1 at a level of, I guess, representation for the BIA. Because you're going to come back to your tribes. 2 You're going to be sitting at these tables and maybe 3 out in the audience too. You know that's the fact. I 4 5 have a little anger level at you people. But I still 6 want to say that, I have to express this, as a Lakota 7 woman, as a mother, grandmother, maybe a great-greatgrandmother, I hope. So I just want to share that 8 9 with you, that I don't recognize this until we get all 10 of our pieces together. (Native language.) 11 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Dion, is this -- are 12 we done with JOM? Is it an opportune time now to 13 present closing comments to this? And if so, I would like to do that right now. 14 15 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Yeah. The JOM 16 presentation has been completed, and we'll get into 17 the next part. But yeah, we'll --MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 18 (Native 19 language.) 20 My friends and relatives, the spirit of the 21 Long Knives is still here with us. The spirit of 22 bureaucracy is still here with us. And as our 23 ancestors told us, to be cognizant of that and do 24 what's necessary so that the children, grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and those yet born won't have to

1 suffer. These are the thoughts and prayers of our 2 ancestors. And this is why we implore on our relatives who wear the Long Knives' hats today, with 3 whatever titles they bring today, we speak to them, 4 5 understanding someone of this bureaucracy. 6 For the past two days we didn't hear how 7 this is going to benefit the children. This is what brought us to these meetings, how is this going to 8 benefit the children. What kind of solutions does the 9 BIA bring to the table, what kind of programs, what 10 11 kind of curriculum, what kind of anything? How is it 12 going to help the children? Rather, what we do know 13 is that the solutions come from us. The solutions come from our communities at home. 14 And the 15 frustrating part of it, it doesn't fit in with 16 bureaucracy. 17 Rather, they call them practice-based. And

18 the bureaucracy is going to step back and say, where's 19 the evidence that this is working? Show us the studies. 20 Show us the success rates. Show us the 21 evidence that what you're proposing is going to work. 22 All we have to do is look back through history before 23 bureaucracy. That's what's unveiling itself in front 24 of us. That's the work that we want to do together 25 with our relatives who don these Long Knives' hats and

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1 titles. That's the work.

It may have seemed personal. It wasn't. 2 We brought the hearts, spirits and minds of the children 3 with us to these tables. Yesterday one of our 4 5 beautiful young men from Standing Rock gave up and 6 took his life. That happens throughout Indian 7 So the evidence-based practices are not Country. working from the bureaucracy. They're bringing more 8 despair and hopelessness. We know that. We feel 9 We see that. We read about it. What we bring 10 that. 11 to the table are solutions.

12 With that, my comments aren't meant to feed 13 the bureaucracy anymore. All we've talked about was 14 money, how we're going to shift this over here and 15 this over there. My comments aren't supportive of 16 feeding any bureaucracy anymore. We have attrition 17 rates, graduation rates that haven't even been talked 18 about. We just talked about money. The solutions 19 that are brought to the table today, yesterday and in 20 the past, January 20th there were awesome solutions 21 brought to the table. Then yesterday we were informed 22 that wow, that was only a listening session. And we 23 can't even get the transcripts from those as treaty 24 partners.

Our children don't have to decide. It

25

1 shouldn't have to plague their minds to decide who They shouldn't have to do that 2 their leaders are. Their leaders are their parents, 3 anvmore. grandparents, great-grandparents, and on back, and all 4 5 the wonderful accomplishments. In their meager lifestyles, their humble lifestyles that they lived, 6 7 they didn't have any titles. They didn't have lavish salaries or homes. Those are their heroes. 8 That's 9 the spirit that we bring to the table. Whether you want to call it curriculum, standards, that's the 10 11 spirit. It's practice-based for centuries. 12 Right now they have to decide, was Abe -- is 13 Abe my hero? And find out he signed that Presidential 14 document that killed 39 of our relatives. Is Abe my 15 hero? Is Benjamin my hero, the one who used the 16 practice of using alcohol on Native Americans to sign 17 treaties? Is Benjamin my hero? Our children 18 shouldn't have to be put in that type of realm of 19 learning and being forced to learn, taking up these 20 education programs that only teach to the test, that 21 deny them the opportunity to be free thinkers as we 22 were and continue to be away from these school 23 systems. 24 So let's change the system. Let's change

So let's change the system. Let's change
 the system. And we're asking BIE, Bureau of Indian

Education, to be with us. It's very frustrating to know to even change numbers from 1995 to today, that they have to get Congress to allow them to do that. Meanwhile, the children suffer.

5 We know how to develop standards and 6 curriculum and other necessary components. And this 7 is what we're asking you to do with us. We're not asking your permission. We're putting this into your 8 9 hearts and into your minds. Listen to us. Let's go from talk to action so the solution is to put the 10 11 resources into tribal education departments. Whatever 12 you want to call it, technical assistance, whatever, 13 provide us the resources, the money to do that so we can pay our experts, our professionals. 14 And there's a 15 lot of them that know what to do. Let's pay them to do this with us. 16

17 Let's put a time frame on it of no less than 18 two years to see this happen. Otherwise, we're going 19 to come back here ten years from now, hear the same 20 thing over and over and over and over. In the 21 meantime, our children suffer. The position that 22 we're asking you to work with us is to develop these 23 standards and curriculum, and also to understand and 24 agree that this technical assistance will be necessary to present so that our tribal departments can show the 25

1 United States of America that we -- we know and assume the responsibility and functions to implement and 2 operate these tribal education departments throughout 3 Indian Country. We know how to do that. Let's do it. 4 5 And until this process is implemented, 6 within a time frame as deemed appropriate by the 7 tribes, education waivers will be implemented as requested by each tribal government as authorized. 8 We've done that from Standing Rock. We've asked for a 9 waiver (indicating). We've put it in writing. 10 We 11 haven't had a response. There have been calls made as 12 to updates of our requests. And the typical response 13 that we get is, we didn't know, we didn't hear, we're 14 working on it. 15 And I'm asking these -- making these 16 positions known to this process that we say is not 17 consultation. You say it is. So whatever the process is, let's not -- let's not measure these in 18 19 generations. Let's not measure this change and shift 20 and how we're going to present fair and appropriate 21 education to our children in generations anymore. 22 This has been the practice with regard to education in 23 Indian Country. We'll do it in generations. We'll 24 civilize the Indian. Let's not do that anymore, my 25 relatives who represent the BIE today. Let's not do

1 this in generations. Too many of our young people are deciding that it's hopeless, and they feel helpless. 2 Let's not talk about it. Let's understand that. 3 Let's take action and not measure it in generations. 4 So these waivers are critical. I don't know 5 6 if it's going to do any good to you, the panel, 7 representing BIE to give you something in writing today. I don't know how many times we have to give 8 9 you things in writing, but I will do it again today as I conclude my comments. 10 11 My friends, my relatives, you may think it's 12 personal. But as tribal leaders, we carry the 13 successes, the achievements of our people. We also willingly carry the pain and the frustration of our 14 15 people. That can't be understood by any bureaucracy 16 because bureaucracy and the corporate government, that 17 we understand the United States of America to be, only deals in numbers. 18 19 The education today is about regurgitation 20 of facts. AYP was put out there, so to justify regurgitation of facts. It's scientific. It's not 21 22 human. It's human doing, not human being. So this 23 corporate government of the United States just deals 24 with votes and money. In Indian Country, we're human 25 beings yet, believing in the prophecies of our people.

And this is what we're asking you to do: At least one time a day, jump out of that box and help our children. Again, I'm not trying to be personal or make this a personal attack on you, not at all. To get you to understand, when you come to us, we're expecting, what you ask for us, from us to be done.

7 And the questions and responses that we have 8 got thus far aren't acceptable. The MOA between BIE 9 and Department of Education is a huge question. Right now we're viewing that as a position of solidarity to 10 11 continue the bureaucracy with regard to education. We haven't seen the draft. We would like to see the 12 13 And those of us that can afford it, will make draft. That, for the record, also has to 14 it to Minneapolis. 15 be made. There are no meetings in the Dakotas and 16 Great Plains to allow us to share with you our recommendations about this MOA and how it's going to 17 18 affect the streamlining. Until we see that, until 19 there's meaningful dialogue and consultation, it's 20 being interpreted as a solidarity effort to keep our 21 children in this box of bureaucracy. The time is now, 22 as it ever has been, to make these shifts. You can 23 call them what you want, paradigm shifts, whatever 24 language it's going to take to move it forward, along 25 with the resources.

Thank you for coming out to the Black Hills. 1 Thank you for coming out to where ancestors we have, 2 we're very proud of, who held out. Sitting Bull from 3 the Unkpapa Band never signed a treaty because he knew 4 of the -- he didn't call it bureaucracy. But he knew 5 the thinking of the White Man. 6 7 (Native language.) In closing, my final thought: 8 We must 9 continue to say our prayers. It doesn't fit into the But this is what has maintained us for 10 bureaucracy. 11 centuries and generations. And if you take anything 12 back to Washington, D.C. with you, let your 13 counterparts know that we still pray up here. Let your counterparts know that we will see the 14 15 realization of the prophecies that were made by our ancestors. We will continue this decolonization 16 We will continue to move forward in this 17 process. 18 cultural renaissance, with the true benefactors being 19 our children. If there's anything you can take back, 20 take that back, because it doesn't feed the 21 bureaucracy. 22 (Native language.) 23 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thanks. We'll take a 24 break before we get into the next session. So we'll 25 reconvene in about ten minutes, so about ten after

1 10:00. 2 (Recessed at 10:01 a.m.) 3 (Reconvened at 10:19 a.m.) 4 5 MR. DION KILLSBACK: All right. I think we're going to go ahead and get started here. 6 It's been a little more than ten minutes. 7 I would like to get started here. I understand we have to be -- clear 8 That's how much time we have 9 the room by 12:00. allotted. So we want to get started. 10 11 So right now we're going to get into the 12 grant assurance portion of the meeting, discussion. 13 And I'm going to turn the floor over to David. David 14 is going to go through his presentation, and then I think that will be fairly quick. And then when he's 15 16 complete with the presentation, then we'll open up the 17 floor to comments and questions. So, David, I'll turn the -- turn the mike over to you. 18 19 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: (Native language.) 20 Good morning. Appreciate all of you being 21 here. And as it's been indicated so many times, that 22 we bring our hearts and feelings together to work on behalf of our children. And the bottom line, as so 23 24 many people have indicated during these two days, is 25 that our children are the bottom line. And although

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1	there is some differences between people here, you
2	know, please understand that our bottom line from the
3	BIE is to work on behalf of all Indians that we serve,
4	including those in the public schools. And with that,
5	we'll get into the assurance statements.
6	The assurance statements has been an issue
7	with the tribal control grant schools and BIE for some
8	time. Before we used to have something called grant
9	conditions that accompanied our Public Law 100-297
10	grants. Unlike Public Law 93-638 contracts, which are
11	negotiated annually with the contractor, the tribes,
12	100-297 does not afford us that opportunity to
13	negotiate annually with tribes.
14	So we've taken some forms from you can
15	look at these at the website called grants-dot-gov.
16	And these were generic provisions for the assurance
17	statements that we took, and then we revised them to
18	meet the requirements of 100-297. So we'll go through
19	the slides here.
20	The BIE is seeking tribal input on revisions
21	to the provisions of Standard Form 424B, which are the
22	assurance statements that now come to be 100-297
23	Tribally Controlled School Grants. The assurance
24	statement accompanies the transfer of funds from the
25	BIE to Tribally Controlled Grant Schools.

And the BIE is particularly interested in the tribes' perspectives on adding the following to the assurance statement: Environmental requirements and adherence to Elementary and Secondary Act, ESEA, and IDEA, Individuals with Disabilities Act requirements.

7 I'm sure some of you are aware that the EPA has been conducting reviews at our schools, both 8 9 Bureau-operated and Tribally Controlled Grant Schools, and have found a number of noncompliances with EPA 10 11 standards. They came forward and fined the Bureau of 12 Indian Affairs, or Indian Affairs, a total of about \$2 13 million dollars. We have since been meeting with EPA, Indian Affairs has, and the \$2 million dollar fine 14 15 right now is on hold and is not being implemented, 16 with the understanding that we correct all of the deficiencies even with the EPA noncompliance issues 17 found at our schools. 18

19 I established a focus group to take a look 20 at initially the assurance statements so that we could 21 present this information during these -- these 22 meetings. What I did was I asked each Associate 23 Director, East, West and Navajo, to provide me names 24 of tribally controlled school representatives to 25 participate as members of the focus group, again to

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1	review the assurance statements. And the objective of
2	that focus group was to review and recommend final
3	draft grant assurances to be presented for tribal
4	consultation. Now, I convened this group back in
5	March. Little bit more information on the focus
6	group: The ADDs initially submitted 13 names. All
7	were invited to participate and come to Albuquerque
8	for the meeting. However, seven representatives
9	accepted the invitations to participate.
10	So we had seven folks meeting on the
11	assurance statements representing Tribally Controlled
12	Grant Schools. And we met on March 6th and 7th to
13	develop these grant assurance statements, which is now
14	before you, that we're going to be looking at.
15	And just to give you an idea of who the
16	folks were on the focus team, or focus group, we had
17	Shirley Gross, G-R-O-S-S, excuse me, from Pierre
18	Indian Learning Center. We had Greg Anderson out of
19	the Eufaula Dormitory in Oklahoma; Ray Lorton, Chief
20	Leschi School in Washington; Matthew Tso, who came
21	over from the Navajo Nation; Patty LeBlanc from
22	Chitimacha Tribe in Louisiana; Peggy Gaddy, also from
23	Chitimacha in Louisiana. Then we had Dr. Sherry
24	Johnson from Enemy Swim Day School from the Dakotas
25	here.

1 Now here are the provisions that are a part of the Assurance Statement. And I want to briefly go 2 over each one of these so that you have an 3 understanding of what we're putting into the Assurance 4 5 Statements. 6 So Assurance Statement Number 1, That the 7 grantee has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and has the institutional, managerial and 8 financial capability to ensure proper planning, 9 management and completion of the program activities 10 11 for which the funding is provided. 12 And this is talking to all of the Federal 13 funds that go into your Tribally Controlled Grant, including ISEP, transportation, Title I, special 14 15 education, O&M facilities. It talks to all of those. 16 Assurance Statement Number 2 will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United 17 18 States and, if appropriate, the tribal governing body 19 through an authorized representative, access to and 20 the right to examine all records, books, papers, or 21 documents related to the award. 22 There were some comments made yesterday 23 about how the Bureau may have not carried out its 24 responsibility through monitoring. This particular 25 provision will allow the Bureau then to monitor the

1 Tribally Controlled Grant Schools. Number 3, Will establish a proper accounting 2 system in accordance with generally accepted 3 accounting standards. 4 5 And the majority of the grant schools have 6 really, really excellent accounting systems. There 7 are some that do not. And we wanted to make sure that all of these dollars that are appropriated by the 8 9 Congress for a specific purpose are accounted for 10 through an appropriate accounting system. 11 Number 4, Will establish safeguards to 12 prohibit employees, appointed or elected officials, 13 from using their positions for a purpose that 14 constitutes personal or organizational conflict of 15 interest, or personal gain. And I think all of us are aware of some of 16 17 the grant schools that have gotten into some trouble in this -- in this area. We want to make sure that 18 19 the funds that are provided out there to the grantees 20 are used to educate Indian children for what -- for 21 which purposes they were appropriated by Congress. 22 Number 5, Will comply, as applicable, with 23 provisions of the Hatch Act, which limit the political 24 activities of employees whose principal employment 25 activities are funded in whole or in part with federal

1 funds.

2	Number 6, Will comply with any applicable
3	tribal, state and federal environmental laws and
4	safety standards which may be prescribed pursuant to
5	the following: The institution of the environmental
6	quality control measures. I'm not going to read all
7	of this. Notification of violating facilities
8	pursuant to these orders; protection of wetlands;
9	evaluation of flood hazards; assurance of project
10	consistency; conformity of Federal actions to the
11	Clean Air Act; protection of underground sources of
12	drinking water; protection of endangered species, and
13	then the lead-poisoning requirements.
14	Now, the reason we're putting all of this
15	information, or these provisions into the Assurance
16	Statements is, again, for the safety of our students
17	that are being educated in BIA facilities.
18	Now, if you as a tribe own your own
19	facilities, if you own title to the facilities where
20	you're educating these children, being funded by the
21	Bureau, then you would deal directly with EPA.
22	Whereas, if you have are utilizing facilities that
23	are owned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, then you
24	would be subject to these assurances to make sure that

25 the EPA noncompliances are abated successfully.

Will allow an inspection for 1 And then 7 is: Environmental and Safety compliance. 2 EPA is continuing to review our schools. 3 They continue to look for noncompliances. 4 And, you know, we would like, obviously, for our grantees to 5 6 allow the inspections to take place. 7 Number 8, Will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which is the 8 Archeological and Historic Preservation Act 9 requirements. 10 11 And then, Will comply with the required 12 financial and compliance audits in accordance with the 13 Single Audit Act Amendments, and OMB Circular A-133. 14 Each of you Tribally Controlled Grant 15 Schools are required under statute to conduct annual A-133 audits. And that assurance statement is in here 16 17 as a part of this document. Now, there are two number 11's that we're 18 19 looking at. This language here was developed by the 20 focus group that came to Albuquerque. And it says, 21 Will comply with all applicable requirements of all federal laws and regulations, and if applicable, 22 23 tribal laws and regulations governing this program. 24 So this was the statement that the focus 25 group agreed could possibly work for all grant

1 schools. Later on, I was informed that the Department of Education wanted specific language in the assurance 2 statement, which is included there in the red, which 3 says, Including the Elementary and Secondary Education 4 5 Act, ESEA, and Individuals with Disabilities Act, IDEA, and if any applicable -- and if applicable, 6 7 tribal laws and regulations governing this program. So if you would, please, take a look at this 8 9 one, and then which -- the focus group's interpretation is when it said all Federal laws and 10 11 regulations, meant all Federal laws and regulations. 12 But the Department of Ed wants us to include specific 13 language for ESEA and IDEA. And those are the 14 provisions that we're looking at to do. 15 We handed out to you the one that was 16 originally used (indicating), which is two pages. 17 It's now been shrunk down to one page with 11 provisions of the Assurance Statements. 18 19 So questions, comments. 20 MS. BARB PAQUIN: My name is Barb Paquin. 21 I'm from St. Francis Indian School. I've been up here 22 sitting a couple of times. So my comments are not 23 going to relate directly to these assurances. 24 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Okay. 25 MS. BARB PAQUIN: But they're going to give

	7
1	a picture overall to the comments that have been made
2	about Indian schools not making AYP consistently.
3	I've been at St. Francis Indian School for 21 years.
4	I came in 1990. I left the classroom in 2000 and
5	became the Assessment Coordinator, and have been that
6	since 2000. So I've seen the evolution of No Child
7	Left Behind and also our involvement with the BIA's
8	mandates regarding No Child Left Behind.
9	Initially, we were told to use whatever
10	assessment we were using. And then back in the early
11	2000s, the BIE attempted to write an assessment for
12	all of the tribes, and found out they couldn't do
13	that. And at that time that's when they told us we
14	had to start using the test that was used in the state
15	in which we were residing.
16	And from that, we began to work with Pat
17	Abada (phonetic) in her group, and then TPA was
18	created. When you talk about numbers and about Indian
19	children in the Dakotas and in the Plains' Tribes not
20	making AYP, I think that some things have to be
21	clarified. And that's how we were how AYP was
22	calculated and how our status, our AYP status was

23 designated by schools.

24 When they were told to use the state's 25 version of the accountability workbook, we all took

1 the accountability workbook, read it and began to use But when we went back for our AYP determination 2 it. with Pat Abada (phonetic) and her group, after a few 3 years, we were told we were not to use Safe Harbor, 4 which was an element in the state of South Dakota's 5 6 accountability workbook. We were told that it was not going to be available to us, even though it was part 7 of the workbook we were told to follow. When we 8 9 challenged that, Ms. Abada (phonetic) told us at that 10 time, oh, in that element, we're supposed to follow 11 the BIE workbook, a workbook that we had never been 12 given and never been told existed, and that no, we're 13 not -- we could not have Safe Harbor. Our calculations would not be based on Safe Harbor, and we 14 15 were just out of luck. 16 In adopting the state of South Dakota's workbook and their processes, initially we were told 17 18 we were going to be grandfathered into the system. We 19 were not. That never happened. The other thing was, 20 is that the Indian schools in the state of South 21 Dakota were never in the norming group before for 22 their accountability workbook. So our students were 23 not even in -- their -- their progress or proficiency

24 was never even included when they set their

25 proficiency levels.

1 The other thing that was taken into -- not taken into account was the fact that every state had 2 their own proficiency levels. And where in the state 3 of South Dakota our proficiency levels originated 4 5 around 60 percent, some of the southwest tribes 6 originated around 30 percent, which meant only 30 7 percent of their student body had to make the level of proficiency needed, where in the state of South Dakota 8 9 60 percent did. So there wasn't equity there to begin 10 with. And when we began to say, we need a fair system, such as a growth model, that was not taken 11 into account. 12

13 So there were a few years there. There was 14 about three years there where we were not even allowed Safe Harbor. 15 That impacted our AYP determination. 16 And schools who could have possibly been allowed to make AYP were not allowed simply by the decision of 17 18 somebody in the DPA, after we had been told that we 19 had to follow the state's accountability workbook, and 20 not told that part of that -- part of the 21 accommodations or part of the determinations were 22 going to be made on the BIE workbook, and part of them 23 were going to be made on the state of South Dakota's 24 workbook. We weren't told that. And how were we 25 supposed to know that? We were not even given the BIE

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1 workbook until we came across this problem. 2 The other part later on that evolved was the fact that the state of South Dakota determines their 3 AYP by attendance centers. When we confronted Pat 4 5 Abada (phonetic) with the fact that we wanted 6 attendance centers, and how come we couldn't have 7 attendance centers in our schools, which would allow 8 perhaps the elementary to make AYP where the high 9 school might not, or vice versa, but at least whatever progress that we could make was recognized. 10 We were 11 told that, literally I was told by Pat Abada 12 (phonetic) when I asked, Why can't we have attendance 13 centers, she said, Oh, that would be too much trouble for my staff to do. 14

And at that point I said, all respect to you and your staff, I frankly don't give a damn about your staff because I'm talking about real children and real teachers and real schools. And why should we be denied AYP just because your staff doesn't want to create attendance centers, which is in the state of South Dakota workbook.

As part of the process, we belong to the Oceti Sakowin Consortium. And there was one year when we got together, and we calculated our own AYP. We went through the process. We produced the documents.

And when we presented that and said, we are totally capable of calculating our own AYP, we were told by Pat Abada (phonetic) at that time that DPA had the treaty obligation, and they were going to keep control of that and do that for us, when we had already proved that as schools, as a group of schools, we could do that for ourselves.

The other thing that happened with No Child 8 Left Behind was the complete destruction, and this is 9 my opinion, but virtually it is the destruction of 10 11 culture and language in schools. Because of the -the demands of No Child Left Behind, most schools took 12 13 over the time that they would be using for language and culture and put all that time into reading and 14 15 math to the point that, you know, currently we have 16 120 minutes mandated for reading, and we have 90 17 minutes mandated for math. And by the time you get 18 through your day, you barely have time to get in 19 science and social studies, much less language and 20 culture.

The other thing that happened because of No Child Left Behind was that the certification requirements for paraeducators, which almost a hundred percent of the time are local Native employees who can speak the language and bring the culture to the

	81
1	school, we were forced not to hire them because they
2	didn't have the proper credentials. Under the No
3	Child Left Behind, we were mandated, and we had to
4	hire people who either had two-year associate's
5	degrees, so many credit hours in college, or meet
6	practice testing, ParaPro. And we lost a great deal
7	of our of our staff who could bring those cultural
8	elements and the language to the school because we
9	were prevented in hiring them under the mandates of No
10	Child Left Behind.
11	But my comments here mostly have to do
12	with and I apologize to anyone if I use language
13	that may offend them, and I'm going to apologize ahead
14	of time. Because I feel that the DPA committed an
15	atrocity against the Plains Tribes for the last ten
16	years. And it was purposeful, and it was premeditated
17	in the way that our AYP was determined.
18	And so when you talk about the numbers that
19	you have in Washington about our students not
20	producing and not being proficient, you have to
21	understand that numbers I'm a numbers person. I
22	work with numbers all the time. Numbers can tell the

23 truth and numbers can lie. And the numbers you
24 received are numbers that were manipulated and bent to
25 the private and personal inclination of some people

1 that were in the DPA, because we were not allowed to have conditions under a workbook that we were mandated 2 And I think that that needs to be said. 3 to use. Because I've heard a lot of comments about our 4 students are not, you know, performing; they're not 5 producing. 6 7 Our students -- the students from middle income families and high income families come into a 8 school with a reading vocabulary of, using, the 9 functional vocabulary, between 40 and 60,000 words; 10 11 our students coming into the school from impoverished 12 Native homes with a vocabulary between three and 5,000 13 words, usable words. 14 Any progress that we can make -- and I can 15 prove in our statistics that consistently in the last

ten years, as we've adopted the research-based programs that have worked, that our students are improving in proficiencies; but we're not reaching those levels that are set externally to the school and the tribe that say this is the only level at which students will be recognized as being proficient.

We have a Gates winner at our school this year. We must be doing something right. Our school, our math proficiency was higher than the local public school. We are second lowest in dropout level of all

1 the Indian Tribes in South Dakota. We must be doing 2 something right. But none of these things can be recognized because we're not meeting these 3 artificially-set external levels of proficiency that 4 5 are mandated and pressed upon our students. 6 And I -- and I need to -- I wanted to say 7 that because as much as we hear that our students are 8 not making progress, we know they are. It's like 9 taking beautifully round children and trying to shove them into square federal pegs, and it doesn't work and 10 11 it's not right. Because all of these things that have 12 happened, we've had -- we've had teachers quit. We've 13 had schools falling apart. We have -- there are a series of -- and I'm really sorry if I offend anybody. 14 15 I don't mean to offend anyone. But we have a rotating 16 door of administrators. Because as schools don't make 17 these proficiencies set by external processes, school 18 boards say, Oh, we'll fire all the principals, we'll 19 fire the superintendent. So now we have this 20 revolving door of superintendents and principals who haven't made it somewhere else, that just keep going 21 22 somewhere else, getting a job. And that includes, in 23 our system and in other systems, a whole series of 24 non-Native superintendents who know that this is 25 happening, and have come into the system purposely to

1 manipulate and use the schools until they get fired 2 and get kicked out. They'll go someplace else and do 3 it all over again.

And the other issue was TFAs, Teacher of 4 5 America. Now they have some wonderful positions. But 6 they've also come in from some other areas, 7 geographical locations. And they have no concept, and they have no cultural sensitivity. And they're 8 wonderful kids, some of them. But they come in with 9 their own biases and prejudices. And they're not 10 11 helping our children. They're not even certified in 12 the areas in which they're teaching. One of our 13 English teachers majored in biologic -- Biblical 14 studies. What good does that do our kids? I hope 15 that he didn't preach.

16 So these are things I wanted to bring up. 17 And to be -- just to be aware, that when we talk about numbers with the children, that in the Dakotas, in the 18 19 Plains, our numbers for AYP were maliciously and 20 purposely distorted because we were not allotted the avenues to which we could have made AYP through the 21 22 DPA. And I think it's an atrocity. I think it's an 23 academic massacre. And I'm sorry if that offends 24 anyone, because it did.

25 We have created a generation of children who

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1	have been told, you're not making the grade, you're
2	not progressing, you haven't been proficient. Because
3	every time the school gets smacked down, so do the
4	teachers, so do the administrators, and mostly, so do
5	the children, because they hear that message.
6	We can prove our kids are successful. We
7	can show you how they're successful. But all we're
8	being judged on is how they're failing. And I'm sorry
9	if I offended anybody, but I think that needed to be
10	said.
11	MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Well, thank you for
12	your comments. And Dr. Hamley will respond.
13	DR. JEFFREY HAMLEY: Thank you, Barb. I
14	just I mean, I just want to say, you've described
15	very well this is Jeff Hamley, by the way, DPA,
16	BIE, described very well, the problems with No Child
17	Left Behind. And I do apologize for some of the
18	disputes that we've had over the years that really
19	preceded me, but over the calculation of AYP. But
20	I think what you described is very eloquent. I mean,
21	the good news is that we are moving, the whole country
22	is moving to a growth model. And as you're saying,
23	using the AYP calculation, it's a blunt measure of how
24	a school is doing. And it didn't take into account
25	growth. So in many schools that didn't make AYP,

there was actually really good learning going on. And there were other indicators; like, for example, the dropout -- low dropout rate, high graduation, a lot of indicators that just weren't taken into account. So I'm happy to say that we as a country are moving away from that very quickly.

South Dakota has submitted a waiver 7 application and 44 other states. So we will quickly 8 9 be into a new generation, and I think it will address some of the issues that you have addressed. 10 And again, I apologize for the past ten-year history. 11 You 12 know, if we could have just collaborated better, maybe 13 we would have, you know, been able to resolve those. But I know that you folks are doing good work there, 14 15 and the schools, the other schools of South Dakota. 16 But under the current system, it's just not measured adequately. 17

18 MS. BARB PAQUIN: Thank you for your 19 comments. I would hope as we go into the next avenue 20 of assessment, and that's my area is assessment and assessment of children, that we don't continue to use 21 22 the assessment formats to batter schools and school 23 systems over the head, and to recognize that we have 24 highly educated Native American, non-Native American 25 educators in Indian schools who are more than capable

1 of determining how to report and track progress for their students. And I would hope that as your 2 3 department creates the program that you're going to create, whatever that is -- and we've been tracking 4 5 the state of South Dakota's also, their draft 6 workbook, that you don't use your book, your workbook, 7 to be the sole indicator of your system; that you will 8 be able to recognize that perhaps we have ways of 9 viewing progress with our children that are just as 10 stable, rigorous and substantial as the ones that 11 perhaps you may create, and that we're allowed to 12 collaborate on this and not be mandated, as we have in 13 the past, to simply use your system, and then be 14 threatened continuously with withholding our funding 15 if we don't do that. 16 DR. JEFFREY HAMLEY: And I think that one --

one avenue that will probably be carried forward with 17 18 tribes, and maybe states too, would be the alternative 19 definition of AYP. So, I mean, I think we should 20 always keep that on the table. And if you're unhappy 21 with the way it is, design a new model and propose it. 22 And our role is really to provide technical assistance 23 for you to do that. But let's keep that option on the 24 table. And if it doesn't work out, we can explore 25 that and move it forward.

1 MS. BARB PAQUIN: All right. 2 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Thank you very Are there any other comments, questions? 3 much. MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: David. 4 5 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Yes. 6 MR. CURTIS POITRA: Curtis Poitra, Vice 7 Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band. And T apologize, but I'm going to step away from your agenda 8 just for a moment. I do have a ten-hour drive since 9 10 we can't get you guys to the Dakotas. We are part of 11 the Great Plains Tribes. But my comments here are 12 going to be mostly for Brian, Bruce and Dion. 13 I'm going to go back to what I said 14 yesterday about these proposed budget cuts. I ask you 15 to really listen to the words I said yesterday about 16 trimming the fat at the top above the line offices and above the local agency levels. These are where the 17 true direct services are to the tribes. 18 19 And for Bruce and Dion, I asked you about 20 wasteful spending on buildings you're going to 21 demolish, spend a half a million dollars to demolish 22 them, when the tribe has asked for them, when the tribe will take over the maintenance and the utilities 23 24 on the building. I think that's a better way of 25 spending our money and put money back into the budget.

1	That's	a	half	a	million	dollars	savings	in	one	
2	buildin	ıg.								

3 And, Brian, I'm going to ask you again about the cooperative agreements. The Turtle Mountain Band 4 5 has taken a proactive approach to find other resources for our students. And for six years we have been 6 waiting for a signature on those. I know you haven't 7 been there that long. But I've been through three --8 three terms as a school board member, waiting. 9 And then they're outdated. And then your solicitors bring 10 11 them back, and we have to pass them again, go through 12 all the red tape over and over.

13 And I want you to really listen to what I 14 said yesterday about treating the tribes just like you 15 would an IEP. We are not all the same. We all have 16 different needs. And that's why I think you need to -- really need to take the input of your local line 17 To us, our new line officer has really been 18 offices. 19 a God-send. It's the first time the tribe and the 20 public school and the line office has worked together, 21 and we've come a long way in a year. So really think 22 about it on these proposed budget cuts, that you make 23 them above those levels, because they know the needs. 24 They're there every day on the reservation.

25 And I'm going to echo that same thought to

1 Dion to bring back, that our Superintendent and his staff is there every day. And when I was there 2 preparing to come here, they couldn't afford to buy 3 pencils. So I really think the BIA needs to look at 4 5 who really provides the direct services to the tribes. 6 And with that, I'm going to welcome you guys 7 to the Dakotas next time. Standing Rock is close to And you have to think about the cost for us to 8 us. come down here ten hours. So I would like to invite 9 10 you to host one of these meetings more centrally 11 located to the Great Plains. And with that, just take 12 my words to heart. Talk to your local line office, 13 talk to your local superintendents. And, Bruce, you were the Regional Director 14 15 there in Aberdeen, and you know we are a proactive 16 tribe, and I know you always had a open door for us. 17 So make these cuts up above. Don't affect our 18 students. Don't affect our people. Trim your fat, 19 your wasteful spending. And with that, I'm going to 20 leave it at that. And I want to thank you for being 21 here. And like I said yesterday, if I offended 22 anybody yesterday, I apologize. But I will not take 23 back my words from yesterday. So please, Brian, get 24 the cooperative agreements done. It's costing our 25 students a million dollars a year. Thank you.

1 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Thank you, Mr. Poitra. 2 MS. ADELE WHITE: My name is Adele White. 3 I'm from Standing Rock, Tribal Secretary for Standing 4 5 Rock. I have a comment regarding the assurances. 6 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Sure. 7 MS. ADELE WHITE: The assurances that are recommended, you're changing it to 11 now, and there 8 is -- including two other ones that you want to 9 include. But is there assurances that there is an 10 11 appropriate funding amount to fund the extra 12 assurances that are being being put on the tribes? 13 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: The environmental 14 issues, there's a pile of money in Washington, D.C. 15 that's under OFM- -- or the House of Facility 16 Management and Cultural Resources. There's an 17 environmental office. And what happens is when that 18 information is put into FMIS and then eventually into 19 the new system, they then take it up, and then they're 20 funding the abatement for all EPA noncompliances. And 21 then also, they have funding for the annual 22 inspections that have to occur in our schools. And I 23 know that like in New Mexico, in Espanola, which is 24 the New Mexico North Education Line Office, they 25 requested funding to do the inspection, and they were

1 able to get money out of FMIS and the environmental 2 office to abate those noncompliances. MS. ADELE WHITE: But some of the assurances 3 come from tribal schools and, you know, whoever 4 5 receives money from this now. But, you know, you're 6 cutting the budgets, you know, from -- drastically. 7 And now it's coming back. You're putting more assurances on the things that are, you know, 8 9 underfunded already. And it seems like, you know, I don't -- I don't know. It seems like we should have 10 11 more funding if you're going to put more assurances And we wanted assurances that you guys are going 12 on. 13 to fund us at this amount for, you know, so many 14 years, you know. 15 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Were you able to 16 take a look at the budget table that I handed out yesterday? 17 18 MS. ADELE WHITE: Yeah. 19 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: If you'll look at that, there is a small -- smaller cut in ISEP. 20 Where 21 the big cut is coming is Education Program Management, 22 which funds like, someone, Brian said yesterday, from 23 the educational line offices to the Director's Office. 24 And that's where the biggest cuts are coming in the 25 BIE. And we're -- you know, the Director is trying

1 his best to maintain funding that goes directly to the schools, which is ISEP, and then the Department of Ed 2 funds, Title I, Title II-D, and then special 3 education. These dollars continue to go into the 4 5 grant schools. So there are funds that we're putting 6 into the program -- into the grants for direct 7 instruction, for supplemental education, which is Title I, Department of Ed funds, special ed, 8 transportation, administrative costs. So, you know, 9 10 you're going to get the funds that are available from 11 the Bureau. And right now, it's looking like we're 12 going to hopefully maintain funding at the direct 13 funding for the schools. 14 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Jesse Taken Alive 15 from Standing Rock. So the short answer is, there's 16 no guarantee of funds, but there's a guarantee of 17 policy implementation. Is that -- is that a fair 18 assessment? 19 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Oh, I don't think 20 so. 21 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So --22 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: I think if, in 23 fact, education is the trust responsibility of the 24 Federal Government, then I think we all know that in Public Law 102.97, it states that, you know, it is a 25

94 1 trust responsibility. Then it's like any other program that's a trust responsibility to tribes, that 2 they're going to get funding. 3 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So you're going --4 5 you can guarantee -- you can guarantee policy 6 implementation, right? Is that correct? 7 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: I can quarantee that we'd like to get this Assurance Statement 8 9 reviewed and implemented (indicating). MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: But you can't 10 guarantee funds. 11 12 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Well, of course 13 not. The Congress --14 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: And that's a 15 simple --16 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: -- quaranties the 17 funds. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 18 That's a simple 19 question. There's no guarantee of funds. And that's 20 what I asked initially. Now, the other question I 21 have is, the assurance compliances signature 22 requirement, is that in the policy? And if they don't 23 sign, if our grant schools don't sign, they're going 24 to lose their money. Is that in the policy and/or 25 law?

1 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: I think -- no, it's not in the law. But I think one of the things that 2 this focus group when they met talked about was 3 accountability of federal funds. Now, you know, these 4 5 dollars that go into your Tribally Controlled School 6 Grants are put in there for a very special purpose, and that is to educate Indian children. And these 7 provisions (indicating) simply ensure that there is 8 accountability for federal funds, for protecting the 9 safety of the students through this EPA mandate, and 10 11 to provide the appropriate educational services under 12 IDEA and ESEA. That's what these provisions are 13 (indicating). We're not asking you to do anything other than, you know, to do the right thing with these 14 15 federal dollars that are going into these grants. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: 16 And we're absolutely 17 aware of that. And my question, and you've answered 18 part of it, it's not in the law. Is it in the policy 19 then to say that if they don't sign it, the grant 20 schools won't get their money? Is that in the policy? 21 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: There are these 22 assurances that apply to 102.97 grants. And then 23 there are some other assurances that apply to like 24 school improvement funds which are separate from 25 these. Under those assurances, if you don't comply,

the Bureau does not have to fund you. 1 Under these assurances, there is no statutory requirement for you 2 to sign these (indicating). But the Bureau of Indian 3 Education deals with OMB on accountability of funds, 4 and also with the Department of Ed. And all we're 5 6 trying to do is make sure that these funds are used 7 appropriately, and that's why these Assurance 8 Statements.

9 Now, there were two representatives that -from the Dakotas that sat in on the focus group and 10 11 did not have any issue with the provisions of the Assurance Statements. So their recommendation is what 12 13 I showed you on the PowerPoint. And, you know, they 14 support what they develop, which is in front of you 15 now as the Assurance Statements. And these reps 16 represented the Dakotas, the Navajo Nations, tribes in 17 Oklahoma. And that was the group that met on the 18 focus group and drafted these Assurance Statements. 19 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So it's okay to ask 20 the question though, right? MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Pardon me? 21 22 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: It's okay to ask the 23 question. 24 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Absolutely. 25 Okay. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: So we don't

1 have to hear that, what you've just said. So you've told us that it's not in the law, that it's not in a 2 There's always the threat of money being 3 policy. withheld to our grant schools. And that's what I'm 4 5 trying to understand here. So you've answered my 6 question kind of in a long-about way. And if we look 7 back in retrospect, it was probably just a yes-or-no But nevertheless, I've got another question 8 answer. about vets' preference, veterans' preference. 9

10 Now yesterday, we were told that we're going 11 to get some kind of information on that, whether or 12 not veterans' preference is being used or allowed to 13 be used or exercised in the hiring of personnel with regard to the Bureau of Indian Education. 14 Now there's 15 a gentleman I'm going to call to the -- ask him to 16 present his issue on the record with regard -- with 17 regard to veterans' preference issues. And I would --I would ask him if he's here, the gentleman from --18 19 from Turtle Mountains. He had a -- he had a specific 20 issue with veterans' preference. And he was stating 21 that he was not allowed to exercise his veterans' 22 preference. Unfortunately, it looks like he's not in 23 the room. But we're still not clear with that 24 Can you bring some clarity to it today if response. 25 veterans' preference is in fact being used throughout

1 the Bureau of Indian Education?

MR. DION KILLSBACK: Yes. 2 That question came up yesterday along with the Indian preference. 3 And the question related to veterans' preference and 4 whether or not -- for an initial hire, whether or not 5 6 veterans' preference would be part of the application 7 process in obtaining a new position with the Bureau of Indian Education as well as the Bureau of Indian 8 Affairs. And it is. And that status as a veteran 9 will remain with that individual when they're hired. 10 11 If they -- if they weren't hired and they did have a 12 veterans' preference, one of two things would happen 13 from that process. One, another -- another applicant was hired who had more qualifications, or was more 14 15 qualified, or the veterans' preference was not 16 properly recognized. And either way, there is a process to essentially appeal that decision. 17

Now, if the veterans' preference is not documented and it was improperly not considered, then the applicant has the ability to supplement that through the hiring process and to ensure that the veterans' preference is considered. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Thank you. Thank you for your -- thank you for your explanation.

25 However, I think we're off the situation here. If not

99 1 this one, but others, where tribal members are told that yes, we'll recognize --2 (Woman handed a microphone to Mr. Taken Alive.) 3 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Yes, we'll possibly 4 5 recognize your Indians' preference, but we may not 6 recognize your veterans' preference. How many times 7 is that told, and how many times is that remedied, that you just shared with us, told to them? Bottom 8 line is: Native American veterans are being denied 9 opportunities to work. 10 11 And I'll ask this gentleman from Turtle 12 Mountains to introduce himself and explain to you his 13 Since this is consultation, I would ask example. 14 if --15 MR. DAVID TALAYUMPTEWA: Excuse me. 16 MR. DION KILLSBACK: I'm sorry. Go ahead. 17 MR. LOGAN DAVIS: Good morning. (Native 18 word.) I'm a Turtle Mountain Chippewa. My name is 19 Logan Davis. I'm a Native American veteran honorably 20 discharged. My father was a World War II D-Day Day 21 survivor at Normandy. He was also in the Battle of 22 the Bulge. He was a strong veteran advocate. And he 23 aligned me with that thought. My son has completed 24 five tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, Special Forces, 25 military intelligence, and mantracker. Very proud of

Very proud of the fact that he did service. 1 him. However, you know, in light of the veterans' 2 preference issue, we talked about that yesterday, I 3 was denied the veterans' preference in BIE. 4 Bottom 5 line. I was told that by a line officer that it no 6 longer existed. She showed me paperwork in black and 7 I, of course, didn't agree with that, and I white. told her that I would appeal that, because it should 8 be reinstated. If it is not in the regulations in BIE 9 to install veterans' preference, it should be 10 11 immediately. 12 I'm proud of my service. I'm proud of my father, my son. I have a brother also who was in the 13 14 service for ten years. As military veterans, Native 15 Americans are unique. We're warriors, men and women, 16 not just men anymore. The women go out in battle too. 17 It's the least that the Federal Government can do to make certain that veterans' preference is honored 18 19 every time, and not skirted. Because not only -- we 20 can talk about it. Veterans' preference does not 21 apply sometimes even if they're equally qualified. 22 Because they always use the fact, what you just said, 23 okay, equally qualified, whatever, you know, it's a 24 balancing act. You know, I've never been able to use 25 veterans' preference in my life. And I've been out

1 since 1975. So I still can get, maybe before I 2 retire, get a job in BIA. I don't know, BIE. I've Never been successful. And I'm kind of 3 tried. disappointed in that part. 4 5 But I'm off the subject maybe about 6 education. But basically, BIA is involved in this 7 somehow or another. And you're listening to the words of a veteran that speaks on behalf of all veterans on 8 9 a personal issue. My veteran brothers and sisters are 10 with me in spirit. I pray for them every day. As we 11 sit here and make battles we have amongst each other 12 over money, that we have men and women putting their 13 lives on the line for freedoms, freedoms that we all enjoy, some of the freedoms. We have freedom to work 14 15 together, freedom to speak, communicate, bridge those 16 gaps. Those are my feelings. And I just would 17 request that you look at the regulations, make sure 18 veterans, vet preference, is applied every time. Ιf 19 it's not there, put it back in. 20 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thank you. And I want 21 to be -- go to a point of clarification. And I think 22 that the particular law that you're speaking of is 23 95-561, if I'm correct. And that is -- that is, you 24 know, the policy of the BIE. You are correct in that. 25 And when I was talking about BIA, it's different, as

1 you state.

2	And just a personal note: I've, you know,
3	spoken with Larry Echo Hawk as the Assistant
4	Secretary. I was his counsel. And I don't know if
5	anybody knows, but he also served his country as you
6	did. And, you know, it's an honor for you to serve
7	this country, but also your your own people, the
8	Chippewa Creek Anishinabi, and is an honor that, you
9	know, a lot of Native people respect, but I also
10	respect personally. And we you know, and Larry
11	Echo Hawk expressed his concern about that and the
12	inconsistency between BIA and BIE. And so as a
13	Counselor to the new Acting Assistant Secretary of
14	Indian Affairs, I will bring that to Mr. Laverdure's
15	attention because I think it's something that should
16	be changed. And absolutely one hundred percent, you
17	put your life on the line for this country, for your
18	people, for your homelands, like many Native
19	Americans. You know, and we're here in the Black
20	Hills. And I know how the Lakotas, you know, hold in
21	high regard and respect and teach that, you know, that
22	society. And the same is true for many Native
23	American tribes throughout this country. And so I
24	want to say thank you for those comments, and I will
25	definitely take that message back to the Acting
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103 1 Assistant Secretary, Del Laverdure. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: Dion, could you for 2 clarity again then: BIA does implement and exercise 3 veterans' preference. Yes or no? 4 5 MR. DION KILLSBACK: From my understanding, The BIA does have a veterans' --6 yes. 7 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: And BIE does not --MR. DION KILLSBACK: Yes. 8 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: -- exercise and 9 implement --10 11 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Yeah. MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: -- veterans' 12 13 preference. MR. DION KILLSBACK: I'm going to turn it 14 15 over to David for just that point, just for clarification. 16 17 MR. JESSE TAKEN ALIVE: And again, this 18 isn't consultation from our perspective. We're 19 respecting you out here and your position of 20 consultation. So we need to walk away from this 21 gathering with clarity on veterans' preference so we 22 can take that message home. Because yesterday it was somewhat confusing, and still yet right now. It seems 23 24 like it's a yes-or-no answer from our end, a yes-or-no 25 question. But I think what happened is that half of

it has been answered. BIA does utilize and implement
 veterans' preference. So now we're seeking clarity on
 BIE.

MR. DION KILLSBACK: Yes. From my understanding, BIA does have a policy for veterans' preference and Indian preference. And the BIE, that the BIE does not have a veterans' preference policy for hiring, but they do have Indian preference.

9 MS. BEVERLY TUTTLE: Thank you. I just want to make a comment. Going back to our big discussion 10 11 on Indian self-determination, I do want to share this 12 information with you: That our tribal grant schools 13 do recognize veterans' preference. In our HR manual, 14 they're a preference to the rating system. So that's 15 part of our self -- Indian Self-Determination Act that 16 we're putting to -- to the use of recognizing. And 17 again, it goes back to yesterday; you know, the Indian 18 preference even going back to the thinking of them 19 taking Indian preference out once it gets to the DOI, 20 Department of Interior. So these are all segregated 21 issues that we're doing, we're practicing, but yet, 22 you know, you're not in sync with us. So I just want 23 to mention that. Thank you. 24 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Comment?

MR. CHRIS BORDEAUX: Okay. I have a comment

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1 about the assurances. I would like to read a statement and put it into the record. 2 In South Dakota, the following data chart, 3 which I have here, was compiled from annual reports of 4 the tribal schools from the BIE website and the South 5 6 Dakota Education website. In interpreting the data, 7 it shows drastic decline in proficiency levels throughout Bureau-funded schools. Another and more 8 9 important interpretation of that data is that on an 10 average, a majority of BIA-funded schools were making 11 AYP at the start of No Child Left Behind. The BIE 12 then required BIA-funded schools to utilize their 13 recommended reading and math programs if the tribal grant schools want the funds to do math and reading 14 15 programs. Although the majority of the schools were 16 making AYP with the programs already in place in the 17 schools, in the years since then, BIE has -- and I 18 changed a word from directed to dictated, schools sign 19 assurances to the BIE to receive funds and scrap what 20 was working for a new program that has no research 21 that it was successful. Because of this -- because of 22 this, proficiency levels immediately plummeted. But 23 the BIE continues to force schools through assurances 24 to use these programs, and proficiency levels continue 25 to plummet.

1 In 2004-2005, the South Dakota BIE statewide proficiency level in math was 52.86. 2 BIE started to use assurances to make the schools use MATHCOUNTS, and 3 I can't remember what else. In 2005-2006, South 4 Dakota BIE statewide was 26.79 proficient. 5 And it's gone down in 2009-2010 to 22. The reading proficiency 6 7 when No Child Left Behind started, statewide for BIE schools, was 48.18. And in 2009-2010, it is 27 8 9 percent. And then just yesterday I heard that with 10 11 these new assurances, the number 11's on here, that

12 the BIE is going to require Native Star for all tribal 13 schools if they want any ESEA funding. The 14 Self-Determination Act, the Tribal Schools Act says no 15 one can impose anything on those schools unless those 16 schools say they can, which means if those schools 17 sign an assurance, you have to do it.

18 Mr. Talayumptewa said there's no statutory 19 requirement that they sign. According to the Tribal 20 Schools Act, they have to give the schools the money. 21 They cannot withhold the money.

I remember when Mr. Dowd was in there, and he found out schools were being threatened with these assurances, he told us that you can't withhold this money from those schools. Ask the schools that never

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1	signed these assurances if they got the money. Yes,
2	they did. They have to. These assurances are already
3	in the Tribal Schools Act, already in the
4	Self-Determination Act.
5	I won't repeat again what was so eloquently
6	stated yesterday by Councilman Kevin Steel and
7	President John Steel about the Self-Determination Act
8	and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act. Those are
9	already in that. They do not have to sign these
10	assurances. They already have assurances that they
11	will follow all these laws of ESEA. This is just
12	another ploy of the BIA to again, as my friend Barb
13	Paquin said, to erode our tribal schools.
14	And I guess to make things clear, my name is
15	Chris Bordeaux. I'm the Executive Director of the
16	Oceti Sakowin Education Consortium. It's a
17	consultation of tribal schools here in South Dakota,
18	from Tiospa Zina, Enemy Swim, to Loneman, Porcupine,
19	Little Wound, Crazy Horse, Wounded Knee District
20	School, Crow Creek, Sitting Bull School, Lower Brule
21	School. They're all part of our consortium. They're
22	all tribal schools. And they all agree with this.
23	They don't have to sign these assurances. You don't
24	have to sign these assurances. But if you do I
25	won't say what I want to say. But if you do, you have

1 to follow this. And I was thinking about proficiency, 2 advanced, proficient, basic. If you're advanced, 3 you're an A-student. If you're proficient, you're a 4 5 B-student. If you're basic, you're a C-student. I remember my daughter, first time she went 6 7 off to college, she called home. After their first grades came out, she said, so what's wrong with a "C"? 8 Our children are not failing. The BIA has failed our 9 children. 10 Thank you. 11 I'd like to throw another thing in here. Ι 12 was just looking at this. It says "A New Day for 13 Indian Affairs." If you look at it a certain way, it 14 almost looks like an atomic explosion. I just --15 nothing to do with anything. But I would like to 16 submit this document (indicating). Thank you. 17 (Applause.) MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: 18 Final comments on the assurances? Dr. Bordeaux? 19 20 MR. LIONEL BORDEAUX: No, I'm not -- I'm not 21 here to address assurances. So go ahead and let 22 somebody else speak. Lot of -- Steve Archambault 23 might want to say something about the assurances. 24 Assured or what? 25 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Need a green light?

1 Let me give you this one. (Handed to Mr. Lionel Bordeaux.) 2 MR. LIONEL BORDEAUX: No, my name is Lionel 3 I'm one of these many Bordeaux's that you 4 Bordeaux. I wasn't -- I'm not so sure that I even 5 hear about. 6 belong here. I'm with Tribal Higher Education. But I 7 saw something over the years that prompted me to begin to get involved with K through 12. So I ran for 8 office, and enough of the Sicangu Owayata supported 9 me, so I got on the St. Francis Indian School Board as 10 11 a board member. And I probably don't have enough 12 years left in my life to know or understand what's 13 happening in K through 12. I'm going on my 40th year 14 as President at Sinte Gleska University. 15 I'm glad to see Jeff up here. Jeff was a 16 fellow colleague one time as a Tribal College President himself. So I know he has an understanding 17 18 of what we're doing. And I know Brian worked for 19 senate (phonetic) for a long time, and I know he has 20 an understanding of tribal colleges and universities. So I'm glad to see all of you here. 21 22 My concern with K through 12 was that we 23 were receiving graduates from any number of our high 24 schools. And yes, we have students who can do the 25 work in a Harvard, a Dartmouth, a Yale. But we have

1 also too many students who come to Sinte Gleska
2 University and still operate seemingly at the fourth,
3 fifth, sixth, seventh-grade level. And that is a
4 concern.

A bigger concern is the fact that a lot of 5 6 our schools, we have a dropout rate that's in the 70s 7 from freshman year to senior year. That is a big, big concern that does not seem to be addressed. 8 And we've been doing this now for decades. And these young 9 people have not been prepared for parenthood. 10 Thev 11 have not been and are not prepared for any type of a 12 career. And yet they are and will be the residents 13 and the citizens of our tribal nations. And what can we expect from our future tribal nations if our tribal 14 15 citizenry is not prepared for the struggles that await 16 us? And education probably won't be a premium or a priority with many of those students. 17

18 We're seeing it at an early age already. 19 Many of these young dropouts are becoming parents 20 quite early. They are in their late teens. They are 21 in their early twenties. And their children are in 22 Head Start, kindergarten, first, second, third. And 23 they think nothing of removing their children from 24 school for many reasons, sometimes just to take a 25 fourth, fifth grader out of school to baby-sit their

1 one-, two-, three-year-old, or to accompany the Grandma just got her money, and they're going 2 family. to do the family laundry, and they're going to also 3 have pizza at the park. And so they think nothing of 4 5 taking their children out of school. When informed by 6 the teacher that they should leave their child in school, sometimes they even get confrontational. 7 So we're having a situation that is really 8 not on anybody's table, and that's bothersome. 9 Ι spent 14 years on a tribal council. 10 I chaired our 11 education committees. I used to be president or 12 chairman of just about every other Indian educational 13 organization in the country. 14 I was finishing up my PhD in Minnesota. Ι 15 had everything completed, and was awaiting graduation 16 when a representative, who started tribal college, and 17 he came to me from medicine man and asked me to 18 resign. I used to work for the BIA ten years. I was 19 one of five selected throughout the country by the 20 Department of Interior Management Training Program to 21 be trained for a future managerial position. My qoal 22 was to be a BIA Education Superintendent on Rosebud, 23 but to retire as the Aberdeen Area Office Director. 24 That was my goal.

And I got up -- I started as a GS-5, and I

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1 got up to a nine, and I was working on a GS-11. When I was in Minnesota, stanley Red Bird, Senior came. 2 And he said, Because you know the Lakota language, 3 we're looking for a young President at Sinte Gleska. 4 5 And the medicine man at those ceremonies, and you have 6 been designated to be the next President. And I am 7 here to tell you, you are to resign from the BIA, and you are also to remove yourself from the University of 8 9 Minnesota and you're not to graduate. You are to come 10 home with me. We will give you an inauguration 11 (Native words), and you are to begin the Presidency, 12 because we have several mandates. Number one, 13 obviously, cultural preservation; number two, to 14 redefine and restructure education; number three, to 15 bring business and education into a closer working 16 relationship; and number four, to come up with a new 17 form of tribal government where you give the power 18 back to the Tiospayes, the Tinsiam (phonetic) system, the communities, and base it on the treaty. These are 19 20 tough, tough mandates for tribal institutions of 21 higher learning. 22 And I'm glad my Itancan, Rodney Bordeaux,

23 President, supports all of these. You don't find too 24 many tribal chairman and tribal councils supporting, 25 coming up with another system that may take them out

of the picture. But this was the mandate of these
 medicine men.

And I quess that's kind of why I follow the 3 educational venues around marketing and talking about 4 5 where I'm coming from and what I am seeing. And right now, it seems as if we're kind of in a vacuum. 6 And in 7 the years of reading and history, when we're in a vacuum as to an uncertainty where we're going, too 8 often something is rammed down our throat. And that's 9 10 always a fear, and it creates a lot of anxiety. Ιt 11 creates a lot of gossip, a lot of finger pointing. 12 Because people, there's an uncertainty as to where 13 we're going. We have these executive orders. We have this creation of this MOU, bringing BIE and Department 14 15 of Ed together. They're going to discuss it, I 16 understand in Minneapolis, sometime in the end of May. 17 And I guess therein lies my question: Where is all of 18 this going? What's the future that we can anticipate 19 coming out of this?

20 We just hosted a United Nation Rapporteur 21 the other day at Sinte Gleska. We had speakers coming 22 from all over the country, including Canada, talking 23 about the declaration that was recently signed, 24 talking about putting together a report from 25 indigenous peoples and presenting to the United

1 Nations in Geneva in September.

This is another beginning. 2 The signs are I don't take them negatively. I'm going on 73 3 there. I was 32 when I was inaugurated by 4 years old now. 5 medicine men, in a big circle much like we're here 6 sitting here, and I was in the middle. And one by one they talked to me, and they talked about the treaties. 7 They talked about redesigning nationhood. 8 They talked about redefining, restructuring education, developing 9 our own accreditation. They said the educational 10 11 system that we have now is not ours. It was brought It was forced on us. 12 here. It was designed to take 13 the Wolakota out of us. And we've seen that. When we lose the generation that I represent, and when we lose 14 15 the next generation below me, how much of our language 16 are we going to have left? I worry about the next 17 two, three and four generations that have yet to come. 18 I hate to say this, but I don't know under the present 19 system if we're going to retain our language. How 20 many sitting in here know their language, (Native 21 word). Raise their hand. 22 (Hands raised.) 23 MR. LIONEL BORDEAUX: One, two, three, four, 24 five, six, seven. Out of how many? 40, 50 of us 25 sitting here. You go to the first, second, third,

1 fourth, fifth grade in any school, and you ask how 2 many know the language. I don't know that one is going to raise their hand, yet we've all continued to 3 work on that system. Something is not right. 4 And I 5 don't mean to offend anybody. But too often when we 6 come here and say something like this, somewhere 7 somebody gets offended. And that's unfortunate. Because truth has to be known by all of us. 8 9 Personally, I would remove BIE completely 10 away from Interior, completely away from the state. 11 The State has control of Indian education today. 12 Tribes are being blamed for low graduation rates, low 13 achievements. We are hearing, hey, you wanted Indian We gave you the Indian Education Act. 14 control. We 15 gave you the Indian Self-Determination Act. And look 16 at our statistics. They're still falling. We do not own Indian education. These acts did not give us 17

18 ownership. We still must get accredited, certified by 19 non-tribal law.

20 What other country turns their education 21 over to another state or another entity? That's what 22 we do in Indian education. We have turned our 23 educational programming over to other entities. We do 24 not control that. So how can we be responsible for 25 the failing in education that we see as tribal people?

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We had our system of education before 1 Since then, it's been in 2 Columbus ever came here. How do we get that back? When will we come 3 turmoil. together to have these meetings to address this? 4 All 5 we have to do is take a look at the Kennedy Report, the American Indian Policy Review Commission. 6 We have 7 all kinds of blue-panel reports out there that tell us time and time again the things that we need to do. 8 Why can't we call and hold fork and -- meetings, 9 tribal meetings throughout the country where we bring 10 11 all those reports and we take a month to go through 12 them and to pull the things out of them that are still 13 applicable, even going back to the Marian (phonetic) 14 Report, and put them into another report, and bring 15 another report, and take that report to Congress, and 16 say, Hey, here we are united as indigenous peoples in 17 this country. We're here to say that we want 18 legislation through the treaties. We are partners. 19 We are in the Constitution. We want a say in who we 20 are. We want an independent educational council in 21 this country that does not have the Federal Government 22 or the state governments' involvement except through 23 We are capable through the treaty. resources. We 24 signed treaties with these people as partners. Let's 25 go back to that. That needs to be the foundation

1 where we come from	1	where	we	come	from
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2	We need our own accreditation. Tribal
3	colleges, we met with Sylvia Manning heading up the
4	accreditation out of Chicago. She said tribal
5	colleges, do not be responsible for cultural genocide
6	on your watch. Powerful, powerful statement from one
7	of the top educators in the country. She said,
8	develop your own accreditation, and seek reciprocity
9	with us, or go your own, or help us to restructure
10	ours, and give ours recognition of who you are.
11	The signs are out there. We need to come
12	together to take advantage of this. Now that we're
13	doing these executive orders, we need to redefine the
14	Indian Education Act. We need a new Indian Education
15	Act. We have the capability. There's enough of us
16	who are at an age, there's enough of these young ones
17	that we can bring them to the table and spiritually we
18	can hold these conferences throughout Indian Country.
19	And through technology today, through online, we can
20	go back to our ancestry. And through prayer and
21	ceremony, we can go back to who they were, and who
22	they wanted us to be, and safeguard us in those
23	treaties.
24	I'm pushing a national tribal university

25 that has online capability globally, but certainly to

118 1 our own residents on reservations and our residents in Where to go with this remains a 2 urban areas. question. Haskell could possibly be that institution. 3 It's off the ground. It has room for expansion. 4 Ιt could be a law school, a medical school, you name it. 5 We can all become a part of it. 6 We have the -- we 7 have the opportunity for a model of education clear across this land that can tie in. K through 12 can 8 9 tie in. Vo tech, you can bring in the SIPIs, the 10 IEIAs. We have that opportunity. It awaits us, and 11 that's where we need to go. That's what the report 12 that comes out of these places needs to say, that hey, 13 it's timely. We're ready to do that. Ancestry is 14 The generations to come demand it. calling. And 15 that's what I wanted to say here. Love you all. 16 Thank you. Appreciate that. (Native language.) 17 (Applause.) 18 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Thank you very much. 19 Rodney, did you have a --20 MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: Yes. 21 MR. BRIAN DRAPEAUX: Okay. Just so we know, 22 we're about ten minutes or so till the end of the 23 session. And just want to allow the President to make 24 final comments, and then we'll close after, 25 afterwards. So thank you.

1 MR. RODNEY BORDEAUX: I'm Rodney Bordeaux, President of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. 2 I wanted to -yesterday I wasn't able to get some comments in regard 3 to the streamlining, BIE, BIA, and in the BIE 4 5 reorganization. Primarily the streamlining will 6 severely impact the regional and local services. For 7 FY13, there is an expected cut of \$20 million. And the bulk of these cuts are expected to be met by 8 streamlining and consolidating the various regional 9 and local offices. This consolidation reasoning 10 behind the report appears to be based upon a 11 12 reorganizational study of the National Park Service, 13 Forest Service and other Department of Interior 14 offices.

15 The mission of these offices is very narrow, 16 limited primarily, essentially, to public outreach and 17 land management. We are opposed to the consolidation 18 of the regional offices, especially the Great Plains, 19 Rocky Mountain and Midwest Regions. The Great Plains 20 services 15 tribes; Midwest, 29 tribes; and Rocky 21 Mountain, seven tribes. The consolidation of these 22 three regions would result in a total of 51 tribes, 23 and direct access to regional directors would be even 24 more limited than it already is. Even with our own 25 region, the Great Plains, the access and services to

1 the regional offices are very limited and are 2 inadequate.

Previous to this, I know the tribal 3 leadership in the '90s wanted to basically close the 4 5 regional office, Aberdeen, and it met stiff resistance 6 by Senator Tom Daschle. So that's a thought that's still there, and it may be resurrected sometime soon. 7 The forefathers of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe signed the 8 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty. Signatory tribes are 9 entitled to a direct relationship with the U.S. 10 11 Government. Consolidation will impact this treaty 12 relationship. Local agencies, including the Rosebud 13 Agency, are the direct link with the Federal 14 Government and provide critical functions on behalf of 15 the tribes, including education, land management, 16 records management, and various direct services, 17 welfare assistance, 638 contracts and technical 18 assistance. Our agency offices need to be adequately 19 funded to meet the needs of each of our tribes. This 20 is where the action is. 21

21 Cut Regional and Central Office budgets, and 22 fund the agency offices so that the needs of the 23 tribes, education, land and natural resources, records 24 management and tribal government functions can prosper 25 and develop.

1 BIA line offices: An earlier attempt by DOI to close and consolidate BIA line offices resulted in 2 a lawsuit, and the BIA was court-ordered to halt the 3 process and keep the offices open. The reorganization 4 consolidation may be a direct violation of that court 5 order and could possibly be litigated again. 6 We don't 7 want to get into litigation. It slows the work and needless -- and hinders the effectiveness of services 8 to the tribe. 9

The \$20 million in budget cuts goes against 10 11 the stated policies of the Obama Administration to 12 meet treaty and trust obligations. Funding should be 13 increased, not decreased. The argument that the BIA, 14 slash, BIE cuts are direct -- are not direct cuts to 15 tribal programs is a fallacy. Regional and local 16 agencies provide direct services to tribes. 17 Therefore, any budget cuts are a decrease in funding for the tribes. 18

19 The report does not include the Office of 20 Special Trustee. Tribes have recommended this to 21 solve this for nearly a decade. It is critical that 22 this recommendation be included in any kind of BIA 23 reorganization. Again, I urge you to ensure that the 24 Federal Government lives up to its treaty and trust 25 obligations. Thank you.

1 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thank you. Thank you, 2 Rodney, for those -- for those closing comments. We have -- we have one more here. 3 MS. BEVERLY TUTTLE: I'm going to say, as 4 5 the day is closing, I'm going to take home, I'm sure, 6 all of my other constituents from our tribal -- our 7 tribal relationship that we have developed and kind of being cohesive. Again, this is Bev Tuttle. 8 I'm with the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council serving on the 9 Education Committee. 10 There was one thought that came to me today 11 12 as I was visiting with one of our audience members. 13 And the concern I'm going to go back to is the Johnson-O'Malley, the fact that Colorado, and I 14 15 know -- I'm not too sure of the other state, have 16 passed the agreement to assure that in their schools, 17 in the public schools where the children are not 18 learning their language, that they have adopted the 19 Lakota language for elders to go in there and actually teach to those children. 20 I would like to plug that in 21 in our information-sharing here as we're discussing 22 these work -- I consider this a working session more 23 than anything. That we consider that, and we will go 24 to our state and -- the state of South Dakota, and 25 probably make moves to propose that, that we utilize

1 our elders. I think some schools are already doing 2 that. However, we also want to give creditability and recognition to the Lakota elders that go into those 3 They are not recognized as teachers that fit 4 schools. 5 into the school system. But under the Indian 6 Self-Determination Act, I know that we can do what we 7 think best fits learning the Lakota language. So that 8 is something I want to stress. That is something you can take into consideration, that we want more elder 9 involvement. 10

11 And I want to just end with, Mr. Bordeaux, 12 you know, is stressing our children are really 13 suffering in every capacity. I can't express that enough because our children do suffer many of the 14 15 traumas right now today as I speak. They suffer many 16 traumas of things that are not their fault. But how could we make them better? And I also want to stress 17 18 putting back in dollars for the residential piece that 19 our schools so sorely need. And again, putting them 20 back all under a form of a bureaucracy that doesn't 21 fit us, it's like cyberspace. You know, we have IT. 22 The way the -- the mainstream America thinks of 23 technology, we're going to lose -- we're going to lose 24 ourselves in this cyberspace because we're just going to be so fragmented, that I really believe that we 25

1 need to keep as much of consistency and cohesiveness 2 to our relationship. And this building -- I want to stress 3 something. I was kind of good about this. 4 I was 5 reading something in here. And it has "Today's a New 6 Day for the BIA." I want to say that I take claim to 7 that new day, because when I came to the listening 8 sessions with you on January 20th, I said, "Today is a new day for our tribal grant schools." I'm glad you 9 10 took that for you guys. I said that. Thank you. 11 MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thanks. Well, on 12 behalf of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau 13 of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education, I would like to thank everybody that is here and that 14 15 attended these important discussions. We are 16 committed to addressing issues, with streamlining the 17 Administrative Assessment, as well as JOM and the Grant Assurance Statements. 18 19 As I stated in the beginning, this is the 20 fourth, and we're now concluding the fourth 21 consultation, and we'll continue with the next three. 22 The consultation will also be open for comments to 23 be up until June 2nd of 2012. And those can be 24 e-mailed to the consultation at BIA-dot-gov. And all the information we've provided will be on the website, 25

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1	on the BIA-dot-gov website under Consultation, and as
2	well as the transcripts from this meeting and previous
3	meetings as well. So thank you again, and we look
4	forward to having more discussion in the future. Have
5	a good day and
6	MS. BEVERLY TUTTLE: I want to say one more
7	thing I forgot to mention. One last statement from
8	the Oglala Sioux Tribe, that President Steel did say
9	that he wanted feedback in 15 days from the day we got
10	done here on our questions we asked and responses.
11	And I'm sure this reporter here has them all. I just
12	wanted to remind you of that. Thank you. This is Bev
13	Tuttle again from the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council.
14	MR. DION KILLSBACK: Thank you. And this
15	will conclude our session. Everybody have safe
16	travels home.
17	(Proceedings concluded at 11:57 a.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	I, SUSAN A. SELIGA, a Registered Professional
3	Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings
4	were taken in the above matter on May 4, 2012; that the
5	proceedings herein were reduced by me in stenotype and
6	transcribed under my supervision; that the transcript is a
7	true record, to the best of my ability, of the proceedings
8	herein.
9	I further certify that I am not a relative, employee,
10	attorney or counsel of any of the parties or attorneys or
11	financially interested in the event of this action.
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
13	affixed my seal of office this 18th day of May, 2012.
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16	Susan A. Seliga, CM, RPR Registered Professional Reporter
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