



NAIC
Native American International Caucus
of the United Methodist Church

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**Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies
in the United States**

The Native American International Caucus of The United Methodist Church supports the 2021 Senate and House of Representatives legislation, establishing a “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies.”

We call on the House of Representatives and Senate to expedite this legislation and immediately launch an extensive project of fact-finding, research, and listening, resulting in meaningful and tangible responses that address and correct the legacy of impacts that the atrocities committed by Church-run Indian Boarding Schools.

The Native American International Caucus of the United Methodist Church urges United Methodists as an act of faith to contact their members of Congress and urge their full support of this legislation.

We call on our ecumenical partners to join us in naming and confessing their complicity in the systemic harm that has been done through the Indian Boarding Schools and to work to locate the sites of Church-supported schools, to find and list the names of children who have attended these schools and where applicable their tribal affiliations, and to determine the geographical and burial location of our children, and the remaining families of these children of God.

We call on Church and Society with all urgency to launch a legislative campaign to enlist broad-based awareness that will expedite the passage, funding, and implementation of this legislation.

We call on Higher Education and the Ministry to engage in an accountable process of fact-finding and truth-telling to determine systematically abusive practices and policies in which Methodist-related schools were complicit.

We call on the Archives and History and Global Ministries to engage in research to determine the names and locations of Methodist supported Indian Boarding Schools, and to locate the archives of the school's enrollment and student information, including any roll of the dead and to share this information with families and where applicable tribes and with the body of the Church.

We call upon the Council of Bishops to lead the entire Church to support this Congressional legislation and to determine prophetic and concrete ways that Conferences will engage in the processes of fact-finding, truth-telling, and the urgent work of repairing relationships with Native peoples who have been directly impacted by the intentional abusive practices in Methodist-related Indian Boarding School in the United States.

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