



Update and action: Native American Apology bill

Good News!

In February 2008, the U.S. Senate passed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which will modernize and expand funding for the Indian Health Service. Not only does this bill move the U.S. government in the right direction to fulfill its long history of treaty obligations with American Indian Tribes, it also includes (as an amendment introduced by Sen. Brownback, R-Kan.) the Native American Apology Bill that Mennonite Church USA officially supported at San José 2007. However, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act still needs to be passed in the House of Representatives before it can become law. You can help this happen.

Bible

In the Bible, God repeatedly tells us that a country is judged by how it treats “the least of these.” (See Deut 10:18-1; Deut 27:19; Jer 22:3; Lev 25:23; Lev 23:22; Deut 24:19-21; Psalm 146:9; Matthew 25:35 for a few examples.) When you contact your federal representative, asking for a vote for this resolution, you are “being an ambassador for Christ, calling the nations . . . to move toward justice, peace and compassion for all people. In so doing, we seek the welfare of the city to which God has sent us.” (Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective, article 23)

Action

Call or e-mail your federal representative and urge them to support the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (H.R. 1328). A sample letter and contact information for your representative are available at www.MennoniteUSA.org/peace.



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