

APPENDIX IV

Indian Education For All: Montana Code Annotated 20-1-501

Recognition of American Indian cultural heritage—legislative intent.

- (1) It is the constitutional declared policy of this state to recognize the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and to be committed in its educational goals to the preservation of their cultural heritage.
- (2) It is the intent of the legislature that in accordance with Article X, section 1(2), of the Montana constitution:
 - (a) Every Montana, whether Indian or non-Indian, be encouraged to learn about the distinct and unique heritage of American Indians in a culturally-responsive manner; and
 - (b) Every educational agency and all educational personnel will work cooperatively with Montana tribes or those tribes that are in close proximity, when providing instruction or when implementing an educational goal or adopting a rule related to the education of each Montana citizen, to include information specific to the cultural heritage and contemporary contributions of American Indians, with particular emphasis on Montana Indian tribal groups and governments.
- (3) It is also the intent of this part, predicated on the belief that all school personnel should have an understanding and awareness of Indian tribes to help them relate effectively with Indian students and parents, that educational personnel provide means by which school personnel will gain an understanding of and appreciation for the American Indian people.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 527, L. 1999.