



PRESS RELEASE
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**Idaho Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Study on Native American Voting Rights
& Calls for Public Comment**

The Idaho Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will conduct a major study of Native American voting rights in the state. The Committee will examine Idaho's voting policies and practices as they impact Native American residents, including but not limited to, matters concerning registration, in-person and absentee voting, and polling location accessibility.

As part of this study, the Committee invites Idaho residents, advocacy groups, and subject matter experts to provide written statements about voting rights issues impacting Native Americans. The Committee is especially interested in hearing from Idaho's Native American residents about their experiences with voting in non-tribal elections. Written statements should be submitted **no later than April 12, 2019**, to: Regional Programs Unit, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 300 N. Los Angeles St., Suite 2010, Los Angeles, CA 90012; email: aventura@usccr.gov; or fax: (213) 894-0508.

In addition to accepting written statements, the Idaho Committee will host community meetings in order to gather additional testimony. Dates, times, and locations are to be announced. Stay abreast of updates at the Commission's [website](#), [Twitter](#), and the [Federal Register](#).

Shaakirrah Sanders, Idaho Advisory Committee Chair, said, "Very little public information exists about voting rights and access for Idaho's Native American communities. The Committee believes a study of this issue in Idaho could be informative and could help promote the right to vote in our state."

Based on the written submissions and oral testimony received, the Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on this civil rights issue of local and national importance.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit www.usccr.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).