



## ATNI Higher Education Committee Report

### Winter Convention 2025

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1. Haskel Indian Nation University Board of Regents, Jessica James, presented:  
The proposed legislation includes significant changes to HINU's governance, shifting oversight from the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to a dedicated Board of Directors and creating two trust funds to provide a more stable source of financial support for the university. While the HINU Board of Regents remains neutral on the legislation, they recognize the importance of providing input on HINU's governance and funding to meet the future needs of Indian Country.
2. National Indian Education Association Staff Presented: Director Jason Dropik.
  - a. We discussed the need for organized communication on the current political crisis and temporary funding pause.
  - b. We need assistance on unified language and advocacy.
3. Table Talks: We had a discussion on land acknowledgements and land education. We would like ATNI or statewide Tribes (including bordering Tribes) to make a general statement acknowledging the shared lands. Thus, institutional Tribal leaders receive a lot of pressure to write land acknowledgments, or non-native leaders can make mistakes and highlight one Tribe's land while disregarding another.
4. Two Resolutions:
  - a. Support For Washington State Funding to Waive the Tuition for American Indian/Alaska Native Students to Attend University of Washington and all Publicly Funded Institutions in Washington State
  - b. Opposition of the adoption of "PragerU" educational materials in public schools throughout Idaho, the pacific northwest, and Indian country