

TITLE 25 - INDIANS

CHAPTER 38 - INDIAN TRIBAL JUSTICE SUPPORT

§ 3601. Findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

- (1) there is a government-to-government relationship between the United States and each Indian tribe;
- (2) the United States has a trust responsibility to each tribal government that includes the protection of the sovereignty of each tribal government;
- (3) Congress, through statutes, treaties, and the exercise of administrative authorities, has recognized the self-determination, self-reliance, and inherent sovereignty of Indian tribes;
- (4) Indian tribes possess the inherent authority to establish their own form of government, including tribal justice systems;
- (5) tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments and serve as important forums for ensuring public health and safety and the political integrity of tribal governments;
- (6) Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for the adjudication of disputes affecting personal and property rights;
- (7) traditional tribal justice practices are essential to the maintenance of the culture and identity of Indian tribes and to the goals of this chapter;
- (8) tribal justice systems are inadequately funded, and the lack of adequate funding impairs their operation; and
- (9) tribal government involvement in and commitment to improving tribal justice systems is essential to the accomplishment of the goals of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103–176, § 2, Dec. 3, 1993, 107 Stat. 2004.)

Short Title

Section 1 of Pub. L. 103–176 provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Indian Tribal Justice Act’.”