



**ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE**

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January 26, 2010

Senator Byron Dorgan, Chairman  
United States Senate  
Committee on Indian Affairs  
838 Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Chairman Dorgan and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Tribal Council desires to express our support of Lillian Sparks, a candidate for the Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Sparks is a woman of the Sicangu and Oglala Lakota, the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Sioux Tribes of South Dakota. We encourage and support our people in their pursuit of education as we strongly believe education is the key to the future. Lillian has become a role model for the young people of our Tribe receiving her B.A. in political science from Morgan State University and her Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University.

With her education and experience, serving as the Executive Director of the National Indian Education Association whose goal is to help American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians improve their access to educational opportunities, and working as a staff attorney for the National Congress of American Indians protecting International Indigenous rights, sacred sites, religious protection and issues related to healthcare and youth, we advocate for her confirmation. Ms. Sparks also held the title of Miss Indian World representing all indigenous people of the world. She was later named one of seven young leaders in Indian Country.

The path Lillian has chosen is a path traveled by leaders. Her work and accomplishments exemplify the Lakota values of vision, fortitude, courage, bravery, perseverance, wisdom and compassion for the people. Such values affect the decisions of a leader whose heart is held by the people.

It is our humble privilege and honor to stand with Lillian Sparks as she comes before you today for confirmation. We thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Rodney M. Bordeaux, President  
Rosebud Sioux Tribe