

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Education 1849 C Street NW, MIB-3610 Washington, DC 20240

October 19, 2023

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to enter into contracts with Tribes, Tribal organizations, States, schools, and private non-sectarian organizations to address the educational needs of Indian students. In 2018, Congress updated the JOM Act through the JOM Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act (JOM Modernization Act). The JOM Modernization Act requires the Secretary to clarify the eligibility requirements for Indian students to receive the benefits of a JOM contract, to clarify the funding formula and process to ensure full participation of contracting parties, and to otherwise reconcile and modernize the JOM regulations to comport with the activities of the contracting parties under the Act, as amended. The Act also instructed BIE to issue a Final Report on the actions taken to meet this requirement.

On June 16, 2022, BIE submitted the Final Report to the appropriate Congressional committees which outlined the update its JOM regulations to implement the requirements of the JOM Modernization Act. The Final Report is available on BIE's website at https://www.bie.edu/supplemental-education-programs.

Should you have any questions regarding the Final Report, please contact Spike Bighorn, Program Manager for BIE's Office of Sovereignty in Indian Education (SIE), at spike.bighorn@bie.edu.

Sincerely,

Tony L. Dearman

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Director