



North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Representative Lisa Finley-DeVille

District 4A
P.O. Box 501
Mandaree, ND 58757-0501
lfinleydeville@ndlegis.gov

COMMITTEES:

Industry, Business and Labor
Transportation

Representative Lisa Finley-DeVille-HB 1581 Overview.

Chair Wanzek or Vice Chair and Senate Appropriation committee on Government Operations Division.

History of HB 1581:

- The Original HB 1581 was a grant of \$500,000 with \$100,000 grant per five tribal nations of ND.
- In the House Government and Veterans Affairs committee amended HB 1581 to total of \$100,000 grant with \$20,000 grant per five tribal nations of ND with a match of \$20,000 from the five tribal nations of ND that passed in the House
- In the Senate Agriculture & Veterans Affairs committee Senator Marcellais amended HB 1581 to the original bill but it failed.

Purpose of HB 1581:

- The money will be used to promote tribal tourism in ND.
- This grant will ensure that ND tribal nations are positioned to capitalize on the growing interest in culture tourism in ND.
- The proposed tribal tourism grants represent a strategic investment in the future of North Dakota's economy and its relationship with tribal nations, promoting sustainable growth, Cultural preservation, and mutual prosperity.
- Utilize funds to assist with the 250th Birthday celebration of USA.

The Need for State Support, challenges facing tribal nations of ND:

- Competing priorities: Tribal governments are often burdened with addressing critical issues such as healthcare, housing, and public safety to name a few. These pressing needs leave limited financial capacity to invest in tourism infrastructure and business development.
- Limited Financial Resources: Without external support, ND tribal nations struggle to allocate funds towards the growth of culture tourism, which is essential for fostering economic independence and cultural sustainability.

Other question asked, ND tourism have other funds to help ND Tribal tourism:

- It is my understanding that there is a grant with ND tourism. The ND tribal tourism have applied but this grant always awarded to another entity not ND tribal tourism.

On a personal note, I served on the North Dakota Vision West committee in 2014 during Governor Dalrymple term where we studied Building communities in western ND Bakken region, the population was growing fast. One of the key points in the conclusion of study was that the ND tribal nations tourism would bring in revenue for the ND tribes and ND state.