

S. 279, Tribal School Federal Insurance Parity Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on May 15, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	0	0
Pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

The Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, allows certain Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations to purchase health insurance through the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program for their employees. The Office of Personnel Management administers the program, but the tribes or tribal organizations purchase the insurance for their employees and must pay at least 70 percent of the premium. The employees pay the rest.

S. 279 would allow tribal grant schools (as defined by the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988) to participate in that arrangement. Because the schools would be paying the employer share of the premiums for FEHB health insurance for their employees, enacting the bill would not affect the federal budget.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lori Housman. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.