

Brief History of Self-Governance at DOI & IHS

**2018 Tribal Self-Governance Strategy Session &
Professionals Workshop
Monday, September 10, 2018**



**Charting the Future
of Tribal Self-Governance**

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Self-Governance: A Legacy



No right is more sacred to a nation, to a people, than the right to freely determine its social, economic, political and cultural future without external interference. The fullest expression of this right occurs when a nation freely governs itself."

The Late Joseph B. DeLaCruz
Former President
Quinault Nation, 1972 - 1993
(July 16, 1937 - April 16, 2000)

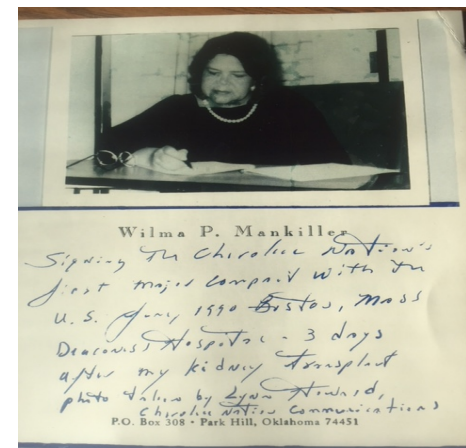
The Early Years: Tribal Leaders' Vision

Indian Self-Determination Education and Assistance Act (ISDEAA) P.L. 93-638, as amended:

- 1975 ISDEAA Enacted
- 1987 Arizona Republic “Fraud in Indian Country”
- **1988 Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project (DOI)**

The Point Man

For W. Ron Allen and a handful of other Indian tribal leaders, taking the lead in the march to tribal self-governance is akin to walking point on a military patrol—you're fair game for just about anyone.



1989 Formation of the Self-Governance Communication and Education (SGCE) Office

- ❑ Tribal leaders saw the need to have a central office (location) to coordinate Self-Governance efforts
- ❑ Share resources
- ❑ Provide trainings
- ❑ Develop Self-Governance guidebooks
- ❑ Plan and coordinate Annual Conferences and Strategic Sessions



Continuing the SG Journey

- **1992** Demonstration Project extended to IHS
- **1994** Authorization of SG as permanent option for DOI
- **2000** Authorization of SG as permanent option for IHS





ISDEAA (P.L. 93-683) Titles

- ❑ Title I Indian Self-Determination Act
- ❑ Title II Indian Education Programs
- ❑ Title III Self-Governance Demonstration Act
- ❑ Title IV Department of the Interior
- ❑ Title V Indian Health Service
- ❑ Title VI Self-Governance Demonstration
Feasibility Study with Department of
Health and Human Services

Growth of SG Tribes

- ❑ DOI:
 - ❑ In 1990 – **10 Tribes**
 - ❑ Today – **285 Tribes** *(50% of all federally-recognized Tribes)*
- ❑ IHS:
 - ❑ In 1994 - **14 Tribes**
 - ❑ Today - **366 Tribes** *(65% of all federally-recognized Tribes)*



How Do These Early SG Efforts Apply Today?

- **If you're a Self-Governance Coordinator, contact the other Coordinators within your Area/Region**
- **Attend the Self-Governance Advisory Committee quarterly meetings**
- **Utilize the Self-Governance resources and materials on the SGCE website: www.tribalselfgov.org**
- **Participate in Self-Governance Annual Conferences and Strategy Sessions**
- **Share your Self-Governance Success Stories and Best Practices**
- **Find a mentor/Be a mentor**

Thank you!

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