

April 30: USET SPF Alert: TIME SENSITIVE TOMORROW Senate Sign-on Letter Urging Sec. Mnuchin to Immediately Distribute \$8 Billion

Dear USET SPF Board of Directors and DC Tribal Reps,

We apologize for short turnaround associated with this request, but we just received outreach from Senator Tina Smith's (D-MN) office this evening regarding a Senate sign-on letter she is leading urging Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin to immediately distribute the full \$8 billion Tribal set-aside from the governmental Coronavirus Relief Fund created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. As you are likely aware, Treasury has failed to honor the statutory deadline for distribution of these resources to Tribal Nations, despite an opinion in *Chehalis et al v. Mnuchin* having been issued earlier this week. In response to that opinion, USET SPF joined an [inter-Tribal organization letter](#) [linked] urging Treasury not to appeal the decision and immediately disburse the full \$8 billion.

In addition to Senator Smith, current signatories to the Senate letter include Sens. Udall, Moran, Sinema, and Warren. Senator Smith is seeking additional signatories to her letter on a bi-partisan basis. USET SPF is encouraging member Tribal Nations to contact their Senators and request that they join their colleagues in this advocacy. The letter is [attached](#) for your use and awareness. **The deadline to sign on is TOMORROW morning at 10 am EDT.** Interested Senate offices should contact Caroline Hunsicker at: Caroline_Hunsicker@smith.senate.gov

Thank you,
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USET/USET SPF staff are currently teleworking through May 1, 2020. We will continue to assess the COVID-19 situation and its impact on our operations. We ask for your patience should you experience any challenges reaching any one of our staff. Additionally, please be aware that the USET/USET SPF organization has created a COVID-19 Resource & Information page which is being updated on a frequent basis. <https://www.usetinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-Disease-LB.pdf>