



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council addresses second petition, sponsors own referendum

The Southern Ute Indian Reservation – On Tuesday, March 21st, the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council received a petition for referendum. The petition was addressed during the Special Meeting held on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 4th. Tribal Council found the second petition for referendum to be unconstitutional because it does not ask the registered voters of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to vote upon any enacted or proposed ordinance or resolution, but instead seeks to direct an appropriation of tribal funds in derogation of the Tribal Council's exclusive authority to make such appropriations.

While addressing the validation and certification of the second petition with the Southern Ute Election Board, Tribal Council passed a resolution directing an election on a Tribal Council sponsored referendum question. Tribal Council has authority to submit an issue for referendum pursuant to Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution. Tribal Council has set an election date for May 4th, 2017.

The Southern Ute Tribal Membership will be asked whether they approve or disapprove the proposed resolution distributing the entire remaining balance of the Sisseton Settlement Funds.