Northern Arapaho Business Council

P.O. Box 396

Ft. Washakie, Wyoming 82514

Phone: 332-6120 — 332-5006 - 307-856-3461



STATEMENT
Keenan Groesbeck
Chairman
Northern Arapaho Business Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 4th, 2026
CONTACT: Nora Willow
307-332-6120

norawillow@northernarapaho.com

Keenan Groesbeck Statement on the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA)

Riverton Wyoming - Opposing Title III of S. 5653 (BAAJA) Northern Arapaho Business Council Chairman Keenan Groesbeck slams proposed S. 5653, The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026 for "gutting Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act", leaving Tribal Nations and their historic sacred sites, cultural treasures, spiritual landscapes, medicines and holy lands vulnerable to Federal Actions including permitting without appropriate Tribal Consultation. Northern Arapaho Tribal inclusion and processes that honor both the federal Trust Responsibility and the sovereignty of all Tribal Nations were not followed prior to introduction of (BAAJA)

Chairman Groesbeck urges Congress to immediately address Title III of (BAAJA) or reject this ill-advised legislative vehicle that will cause irreversible damage to not only Americas' treasures but the sacred places and medicines that have sustained the Northern Arapaho Tribe and other Tribal Nation since beginning of time.

The laudable goals of this legislation can be achieved while preserving the hard-fought safeguards contained in Section 106 of NHPA and protecting both the Northern Arapaho Tribe and Indian Country. The current iteration which is scheduled for a cloture vote on November 9th was negotiated without any Northern Arapaho input or Tribal Nation consultation, it was crafted without hearings or a Congressional record completely excluding the Northern Arapaho Tribe and Tribal Nation citizens.

The Northern Arapaho Tribe and all Tribal Nations deserve better from their federal partners including an opportunity as Americans to be included in the development of this legislation. We have been involved in extraction and permitting for over 100 years on the Wind River Indian Reservation and have demonstrated unequivocally that development/permitting and cultural preservation including robust tribal consultation are compatible and produce outcomes with cultural integrity.

Sincerely,

Keenan Groesbeck, Chairman
Northern Arapaho Business Council
Northern Arapaho Tribe