“Native organizations are not asking us to judge our Quaker ancestors. They are asking, ‘Who are Friends today? Knowing what we know now, will Quakers join us in honest dialogue? Will they acknowledge the harm that was done? Will they seek ways to contribute toward healing processes that are desperately needed in Native communities?’”

* [Paula Palmer, Friends Journal](https://www.friendsjournal.org/quaker-indian-boarding-schools/)

May 2022

Dear Friends,

It is long overdue for our country acknowledge the trauma inflicted by Indian Boarding Schools in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Christian churches often collaborated with the government to create hundreds of these schools around the country with the goal of assimilating Native children into white society. Quakers were among the religious bodies that ran these boarding schools, causing unspeakable harm to Native children and communities.

Today, Congress can pass legislation that would begin to seek truth and healing for the Native communities that are still affected by this trauma. Friends today are working with tribal nations to advance this congressional effort to formally investigate boarding school policy and develop recommendations for future action.

***Act Now!*** [Urge your members of Congress to support and co-sponsor the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act (S. 2907/H.R. 5444).](https://fcnl.quorum.us/campaign/35660/?utm_souce=fcnlaction)

Increasingly, more members of Congress are signing on to co-sponsor this legislation. Your voices are vital in continuing the momentum to push this effort forward. While the wrongs committed at these boarding schools can never be made right, this truth and healing commission can begin a process of working to right the relationship with tribal nations.

Please act using the accompanying letter template, call script, and this [email template](https://fcnl.quorum.us/campaign/35660/?utm_souce=fcnlaction)***.*** Add 2‐4 sentences letting your legislator know why you are personally concerned. Then, call Congress at 202‐224‐3121 and ask to be connected to your representative’s and senators’ offices. Leave a message if they do not pick up or if you are calling after office hours.

I also hope you will join FCNL’s Quaker Changemaker event on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. EDT, “Seeking Truth, Healing, and Right Relationship: Quakers and the Legacy of Indian Boarding Schools.”

Your letters, emails, and phone calls to Congress matter now more than ever. We ask Friends to continue contacting their elected officials using our materials. Please share this call to action with your community email lists and organize virtual gatherings for collective advocacy. Learn more and get training from FCNL staff at [fcnl.org/lobbyfromhome.](https://www.fcnl.org/resources/lobby-congress-home)

In peace,

Emma Hulbert

Program Assistant for Quaker Outreach
ehulbert@fcnl.org

***Call Script***

Hello, I am calling for [**Representative/Senator**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]. I am a resident of **[state]**. Please support and co-sponsor the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act (S. 2907/H.R. 5444). It is long overdue for our country acknowledge the trauma inflicted by Indian Boarding Schools in the 19th and early 20th centuries. While the wrongs committed at these boarding schools can never be made right, this commission can begin a process of seeking truth and healing.

***(My story)***

Please support and co-sponsor the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act (S. 2907/H.R. 5444). Thank you.

[Letter/Email Template](https://fcnl.quorum.us/campaign/35660/?utm_souce=fcnlaction)

May 2022

Dear\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Please support and co-sponsor the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act (S. 2907/H.R. 5444).

***(My story)***

It is long overdue for our country to acknowledge the trauma inflicted by Indian Boarding Schools in the 19th and early 20th centuries. While the wrongs committed at these boarding schools can never be made right, this commission can begin a process of seeking truth and healing.

I urge you to support and co-sponsor the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act (S. 2907/H.R. 5444).

Sincerely,

(Name, Physical Address, Phone, Email)