

Follow the Money: Campaign Donations

Across the country the “general treasury” of federally recognized Indian tribes is predominantly funded by Federal taxpayer funds targeted for the direct benefit of programs and services to enrolled tribal members and their families. However, Indian tribes are now taking U.S. taxpayer dollars from their general treasury funds, and using these taxpayer dollars to line the pockets of elected officials, lobbyists and legal counsel to further any whims and desires they might solicit from Congress, federal agencies or state legislatures.

Untaxed Indian gambling revenue and U.S. taxpayer dollars are the two primary sources of funds that some 562 federally recognized tribes utilize.

Do the math here: 562 federal tribes plus over 400 Indian gambling casinos equals 962 separate untaxed or tax-funded bottomless pits of political clout to overwhelm the elected officials and constituents in 37 states that have Indian reservations. With nearly 200 other tribes awaiting federal recognition, and at least 100 more Indian casinos coming online in California alone, 18 more casinos coming to Washington State and God knows where else, the Indian financial laundromat is exploding.

We deeply hope that journalists will investigate and expose this abuse of tax-exempt funds, and abuse of taxpayer’s funds. Surely someone will sound the alarm to the American public that Congress is becoming an indentured servant to Indian tribes.