



INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIAN CITIZENSHIP ACT FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

Recognizing June 2nd

On behalf of BGCA Native Services and the Indigenous Connections Movement Resource Group, we would like to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the “**Indian Citizenship Act**”. On June 2, 1924, the U.S. government unilaterally extended U.S. citizenship to Native Americans by passing the Indian Citizenship Act over the objection of some Native Nations.

As dual citizens of their Tribes and the United States, members of federally-recognized Tribes should have been able to register and participate in both non-Tribal (U.S.) elections and Tribal elections.

Please join us in learning more about Native voting rights and how you can be a leader in your area. You can also learn more about the issues that impact Native voters through this read [Obstacles at Every Turn](#). Be a leader and learn how you can educate yourself, your co-workers and Boys & Girls Club members and staff about Native citizenship rights.

THE FACTS:

- **This granted all Native Americans born in the U.S. the right to vote.**
- There are **574 Federally recognized Tribes** with a service population of approximately **2.5 million American Indian and Alaska Natives**.
- Tribal Nations maintain government-to-government relationships with the United States **as their Sovereign right**.
- Like other U.S. citizens, **Native Americans have the same right to a voice and should be able to decide who should represent them at the local, state and Federal levels**. However, Native people have had to continually litigate for the right to vote because **state governments pass legislation to prevent their participation**.
- Only in 1958, thirty-eight years after the Indian Citizenship Act, could **Native voters even participate in U.S. elections in all fifty states**.

