

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 11 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3006.

House Bill 3006 would have extended the sunset of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education for another five years. But this advisory council does not appear to have functioned as an active or effective body, at least based on publicly available records. Just as troubling, it has not operated with the transparency the public is entitled to. The available record suggests it has met only about six times in the past five years, and only about twice in the last three, despite a legal duty to meet quarterly and submit annual reports.

Its purpose is also largely redundant. The council's advisory role overlaps with work already being done by the Office of American Indian Education at the State Department of Education.

If the goal is smaller, more accountable government, there is no reason to keep extending a dormant, redundant advisory council that lacks transparency. It should instead be eliminated.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Enrolled House Bill 3006.