

# Asks Private Sector Study of BIA

WASHINGTON — The Senate Interior Committee adopted an amendment introduced by Senator Dewey F. Bartlett, R-Okla., to the American Indian Policy Review Commission Bill (S.J. Res. 133) which will establish a "Private Sector Task Force" to conduct an indepth management study of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Bartlett, the ranking authority minority member of the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs, said he was "very pleased that the committee adopted my resolution as a separate title to the bill."

"This study will enable the new BIA Commissioner to make

needed management changes rapidly," Bartlett said.

Bartlett's original proposal was amended to delete any policy study by the task force. Afterwards, Bartlett said he would like to have seen a comparison of this kind of study with the "expensive one proposed in S.J. Res. 133."

"This kind of study has proven very helpful to Governors and was helpful to me when I was Governor of Oklahoma," he said. "I think the concept could be applied on the Federal level at a significant saving to the taxpayers," he added.

After restating his support for raising the BIA Commissioner

to Assistant Secretary of the Interior status, Bartlett said that the private study approach will generate suggested improvements that would not have surfaced under present structures.

"Many improvements will come from BIA personnel themselves — improvements they would not have surfaced under present circumstances," Bartlett said.