

# Jackson Introduces Bill

Expanded contracting authorization and grants are the core of a bill introduced Feb. 9 by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., entitled the "Indian Self-Determination Act of 1972."

The proposed legislation will

allow tribes to contract with the secretaries of Interior and HEW to conduct and administer a number of projects under existing federal programs.

The bill, said Jackson, would reverse the "disproportionate impact" of the government "upon daily lives of tribal members."

The bill is similar in features to one proposed by the Nixon administration. Said Forrest Gerard, top aide on the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee:

"I look upon this bill as an alternative to the administration's Assumption of Control Bill, and admit it does not go as far as their bill. But it is one with a better chance of being moved through the Senate."