Insights: Publications

Tribal Self-Governance Under Trump: A Common Goal

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Tribes are rightly concerned that federal programs benefiting tribal communities may become the target of budget cuts under the Trump administration and the Republican Congress, but tribes should not lose heart quite yet. With creative, strategic leadership from tribes, Trump's administration could rally around a key tribal priority: the pursuit of self-governance. By taking a pragmatic approach to Trump's regulatory reform agenda, laid out in recent executive orders and his "America First, Budget Blueprint," tribes may be able to achieve more to advance self-governance than they anticipate. The connection between tribes' long-term goal of self-governance and the Trump administration's regulatory reform agenda might not be obvious at first glance, but the Trump administration's regulatory reform agenda could potentially support tribes in a much needed evaluation and streamlining of burdensome regulations for tribal self-governance programs.