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Review of *Taking Charge: Native American Self-Determination and Federal Indian Policy, 1975-1993*  
By George Pierre Castile.

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*Taking Charge: Native American Self-Determination and Federal Indian Policy, 1975-1993.* By George Pierre Castile. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2006. 164 pp. Notes, references, index. \$35.00.

In *Taking Charge* George Pierre Castile extends his earlier work, *To Show Heart: Native American Self-Determination and Federal Indian Policy, 1960-1975* (1998), and carries the story of federal Indian policy through the presidency of George H. W. Bush. Castile begins with how President Jimmy Carter's efforts to streamline federal government bureaucracy led to the creation of a new office, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs. Carter continued self-determination, but his delegating nearly all Indian matters disappointed most Indians. Issues given most attention involved land and fishing claims, the claims of several eastern tribes for federal recognition, and the return of lands taken from tribes in the past under very questionable circumstances.

Congress took more initiative, led by Morris Udall and James Abourezk. Accomplishments included the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978), the Federal Acknowledgment Process (1978), the creation of the American Indian Policy Review Commission (1976), the Indian Child Welfare Act (1978), the Archaeological Resources Act (1979), and the extension of funding for Indian community colleges under the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act (1978).

President Ronald Reagan also took little direct interest in Indian affairs and cut funding in some areas, but monies for contracting for services with tribes did increase under his administration. Reagan in fact seemed to trivialize Indian matters, sometimes frustrating his staff who often urged projects and pronouncements important in winning election votes in western congressional districts. Reagan wanted more of a free market role and more private ownership and management in economic development, but the only substantive accomplishment was the boom in gaming and gambling operations. Congress likewise seemed to lose interest in Indian issues. Very few bills were introduced, and Congress's major role was simply to moderate budget cuts promoted by Reagan.

During Reagan's second term, Daniel K. Inouye, Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, became more active, initiating an investigation that led to many recommendations, of which few were implemented. Reservation-based gambling became a major issue, and Congress, led by Morris Udall, considered regulation of this increasingly controversial form of economic development. Ultimately, Congress worked out a compromise that created two classes of gaming: traditional Indian games that tribes could regulate, and casino operations that were subject to compacts with states. Many Indians resented the limitations on tribal sovereignty.

This book is not as comprehensive as Charles Wilkinson's *Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations* (2005), but it is a good overview of major developments in Indian policy in the recent past.

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