

Written by Administrator  
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**Southampton** - Congressman Tim Bishop released the following statement following today's announcement that the Shinnecock Indian Nation has been granted final recognition by the federal government. Recognition was finalized after an 11th-hour challenge filed by Connecticut casino interests was dismissed today by the

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

"I am pleased that the Bureau of Indian Affairs swiftly dismissed the baseless challenge filed by opponents to the federal recognition of the Shinnecock Indian Nation. Today, the Nation's long struggle for recognition finally comes to an end, and a new chapter opens in their long and proud history.

I look forward to helping the Shinnecock access the housing, educational, and other important federal benefits they are entitled to under law. I will also continue my collaboration with tribal leaders to improve the standard of living on the Shinnecock Reservation and encourage responsible, sustainable economic development which benefits the tribe and our entire community."

*From Congressman Tim Bishop's Office*

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