

## **NCAI Policy Research Center**

### **Bio Benny Shendo**

Benny Shendo, Jr. is the Cabinet Secretary of Indian Affairs for the State of New Mexico. Mr. Shendo was appointed by Governor Bill Richardson in April 2004 to head the newly elevated Indian Affairs Department. Prior to joining Governor Richardson's Cabinet, he served as the Senior Manager for Native American Programs, Office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of New Mexico. Mr. Shendo has worked in Higher Education for over 17 years and was formerly the Assistant Dean of Students and Director of the American Indian Program at Stanford University. A native of Jemez Pueblo, he has served his community as the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Governor in 1998 and 2002 respectively. He is a former Fellow of the W.K. Kellogg National Leadership Program Group XVI and a graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder.