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Tribal Cigarette-Sale Compacts Approved

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - Compacts between two Native American tribes and the state of Kansas approved by Governor Sam Brownback this week will allow the state to audit cigarette sales on tribal lands and continue to receive \$60 million in annual payments that benefit children's programs.

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt says smokers go to reservations to buy cheap cigarettes.

Under a 1998 settlement with four tobacco companies, 46 states, including Kansas, must account for all cigarettes and pay into an escrow fund.

The companies said in 2003 that states weren't keeping up their end of the deal. Kansas settled its dispute in 2012.

The state signed compacts with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, and is in similar negotiations with two other tribes.

Associated Press