



**RESOLUTION # 19-04-02
NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD**



**RESOLUTION # 334-08-19
CALIFORNIA RURAL INDIAN
HEALTH BOARD**

JOINT RESOLUTION

A CALL TO CONGRESS TO SUPPORT ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

- WHEREAS,** the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a Tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents 43 federally-recognized Indian Tribes in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho and is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people in the Northwest; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB), founded in 1969 for the purpose of bringing back health services to Indians of California, is a Tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents 52 federally-recognized Tribes through its membership of 16 Tribal Health Programs in California and is committed to the needs and interests that elevate and promote the health status and social conditions of the Indian People of California; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the NPAIHB and CRIHB are dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of AI/AN people; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the primary goal of the NPAIHB and CRIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member Tribes; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** the United States has a unique and special relationship with AI/ANs to provide health care as established through the U.S. Constitution, treaties, U.S. Supreme Court decisions and federal legislation; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** although the trust relationship requires the federal government to provide for the health and welfare of Tribal nations, the Indian Health Service (IHS) remains chronically underfunded and AI/ANs suffer from among the lowest health status nationally; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** IHS, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, administers health care to 2.6 million AI/ANs residing in Tribal communities in 35 states, directly, or through contracts or compacts with Tribes and Tribal organizations under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** in recent years, federal appropriation bills have not been enacted in a timely manner, thus hampering Tribal and IHS health care providers' budgeting, recruitment, retention, provision of services, facility maintenance, and construction efforts; **AND**

WHEREAS, since Fiscal Year 1998, there has only been one year (FY2006) in which the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill has been enacted before the beginning of the new fiscal year; **AND**

WHEREAS, the budgetary solution to this failure to uphold the federal trust responsibility, and the one which does not require the Congressional appropriations committees to count Advance Appropriations against their spending cap is Advance Appropriations; **AND**

WHEREAS, the NPAIHB and CRIHB believe that moving to the Advance Appropriations process protects Tribes and Tribal organizations and the IHS direct service units from cash flow problems that regularly occur at the start of the federal fiscal year due to delays in enactment of annual appropriations legislation; **AND**

WHEREAS, Congress has recognized the difficulties inherent in the provision of direct health care that relies on the appropriations process and traditional funding cycle through enactment of the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009 (PL 111-81), which authorized Advance Appropriations for Veterans Administration (VA) medical care programs; **AND**

WHEREAS, the IHS should be afforded the same budgetary certainty and protections extended to the VA, which is also a federally-funded provider of direct health care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NPAIHB and CRIHB request that Congress amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize Advance Appropriations for the IHS; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPAIHB and CRIHB request that Congress include our recommendation for Advance Appropriations for IHS in the Budget Resolution; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPAIHB and CRIHB request that Congress include in the enacted appropriations bill Advance Appropriations for IHS.

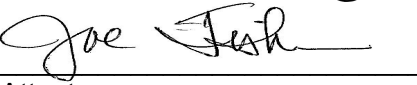
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing joint resolution was adopted at a duly called regular joint meeting of the Board of Directors of NPAIHB and CRIHB (***NPAIHB** vote -- For and -- Against and -- Abstain; **CRIHB** vote --- For and -- Against and -- Abstain*) held this 18th day of July 2019, in Lincoln, CA and shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded.

**NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD**

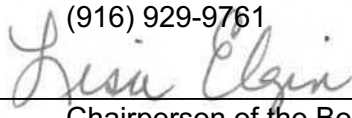
2121 SW Broadway, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97201
(503) 228-4185


Chairperson of the Board


Attest

**CALIFORNIA RURAL
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, INC.**

1020 Sundown Way
Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 929-9761


Chairperson of the Board


Attest