

**OPENING STATEMENT**

- **To put it plainly: Every time there is a government shutdown, the Federal Government fails to uphold its treaty and trust obligation to tribes by not providing consistent and stable funding for the Indian Health Service.**
- **I understand that the White House supports advanced appropriations as an essential bridge to a new mandatory structure and is committed to working with Congress and Tribes to develop further legislation for mandatory funding. With that said, I'd like to enter the Statement of Policy from the White House Office of Budget and Management into the record.**
- **I would also like to enter into the record the following resolutions from national tribal organizations in support of advanced appropriations, including:**

- **A 2013 resolution from the United South and Eastern Tribes**
- **A 2014 resolution from the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes and a resolution from the National Indian Health Board**
- **The 2018 U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Broken Promises report includes a key recommendation for advanced appropriations for IHS to bring parity among federally funded health programs like the Veteran's Health Administration.**
- **A 2019 resolution from the National Congress of American Indians and a resolution from the American Bar Association**
- **Lastly, a series of letters to Congress from over 70 tribal nations and organizations supporting the inclusion of advanced appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2022 omnibus appropriations bill.**

- **As you can see Madam Chair, this bill has bipartisan support as well as the support of Indian Country. I appreciate all the witnesses, including the Administration for testifying today and I look forward to the rest of this hearing.**