

**NORTHWEST
PORTLAND
AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe
Chehalis Tribe
Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Colville Tribe
Coos, Suislaw &
Lower Umpqua Tribe
Coquille Tribe
Cow Creek Tribe
Grand Ronde Tribe
Hoh Tribe
Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe
Kalispel Tribe
Klamath Tribe
Kootenai Tribe
Lower Elwha Tribe
Lummi Tribe
Makah Tribe
Muckleshoot Tribe
Nez Perce Tribe
Nisqually Tribe
Nooksack Tribe
NW Band of Shoshoni Tribe
Port Gamble S' Klallam Tribe
Puyallup Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Quinault Tribe
Samish Indian Nation
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
Shoalwater Bay Tribe
Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
Siletz Tribe
Skokomish Tribe
Snoqualmie Tribe
Spokane Tribe
Squaxin Island Tribe
Stillaguamish Tribe
Suquamish Tribe
Swinomish Tribe
Tulalip Tribe
Umatilla Tribe
Upper Skagit Tribe
Warm Springs Tribe
Yakama Nation

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RESOLUTION #03-02-04

**The Elevation of the Director of the Indian Health Service to
Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health and Human
Services**

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents forty-three Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho and is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people in the Northwest; and

WHEREAS, the NPAIHB is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of the NPAIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service (IHS) is administratively located in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); and

WHEREAS, the Director of the IHS, the top administrative official charged with carrying out the federal responsibility for Indian health, reports directly to the Secretary of DHHS; and

WHEREAS, the DHHS support and prioritizes the Healthy People 2010 Initiative across the Nation and the Secretary of DHHS has stated publicly that the Department intends to address the health disparities in Indian Country, demands the need to have the IHS Director at the Assistant Secretary level; and

WHEREAS, Recent Chairs of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee have recognized the need for a federal advocate for Indian health and have introduced bills that provide for the elevation of the Director of the IHS to Assistant Secretary of the DHHS; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians passed a resolution supporting the elevation of the IHS Director to the Assistant Secretary level and the NPAIHB affirms that resolution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NPAIHB does hereby support the elevation of the Director of IHS to Assistant Secretary of HHS in the 108th Congress.

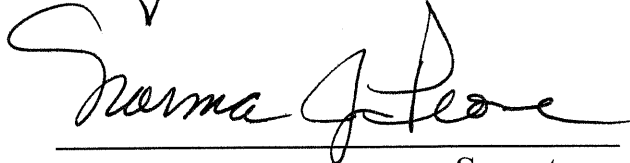
CERTIFICATION

NO. 03-02-04

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being present and voting; 35 for, _____ against, _____ abstain on January 16, ~~2002~~ 2003



Chairman



Secretary

January 16, 2003
Date