**Legislative Committee Report**

**January 16, 2018**

Attendees: Andy Joseph, Jr. (Colville), Greg Abrahamson (Spokane), Karol Dixon (Port Gamble S’klallam), Gerald Hill (Klamath Tribe), Julie Reed (Snoqualmie), Nickolaus Lewis (Lummi), Cheryl Rasar (Swinomish), Cheryle Kennedy (Grande Ronde), Brent Simosky (Jamestown)

Staff/Other: Joe Finkbonner, Laura Platero

Three resolutions were considered and one was requested by the Legislative Committee:

1. **Employee Recognition Policy**

Under this resolution, the Board recommends that the Employee Recognition Policy be incorporated into the Program Operations Manual of the NPAIHB.

Action: A motion was made (Spokane) and second (Lummi) to pass the resolution with edit of title to “Employee Recognition Policy” to the full board for consideration, then unanimous vote occurred approving same.

Concurrent to resolution discussion in Legislative/Resolution Committee, Personnel Committee also discussed the policy and asked that it be tabled until a new proposal is presented as to award amounts/gifts for years of service.

1. **Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country**

This resolution endorses and supports the efforts by staff of the EpiCenter, under the guidance of the Executive Director, to pursue funding through the CDC PPHF Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country Funding Opportunity.

Action: A motion was made (Swinomish) and second (Spokane) to pass the resolution with edits to the full board for consideration, then unanimous vote occurred approving same.

1. **Request that U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Its Agencies Make Hepatitis C Medications a Clinical Priority and Request for Congressional Appropriation of Funding to Indian Health Service for Hepatitis C Medications in Parity with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Funding**

Under this resolution, the Board requests that all Health and Human Services programs and services (CMS, IHS) make HCV treatment a clinical priority and ensure access to medications to all persons with medical need as determined per American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) guidelines; and also requests that Congress appropriate funding to the Indian Health Service to Assure Access to Hepatitis C Medications for all AI/AN people with HCV as part of the initiative to Eliminate HCV among AI/ANs.

Request that a whereas clause be added stating that treatment of HCV on an individual level is a treatment of the community. In addition, language stating that Congressional funding request is to achieve parity with the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs.

Action: A motion was made (Spokane) and second (Swinomish) to pass the resolution with edits to the full board for consideration, then unanimous vote occurred approving same.

1. **Request that State Medicaid Agencies Make Hepatitis C Medications a Clinical Priority**

Staff was directed to develop a second HCV medications resolution directed to State Medicaid Agencies. The ask is for State Medicaid Agencies to make HCV treatment a clinical priority and ensure access to medications to all persons with medical need as determined per American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) guidelines.