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October 2, 2009

GENERAL MEMORANDUM 09-123

Legislation Introduced to Reauthorize Special Diabetes Program for Indians

On September 29, 2009, Representative DeGette (D-CO) introduced HR 3668, legislation to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) and the Special Diabetes Program for Type I Diabetes (Type I Program). The bill would provide additional funds for both programs. Joining Representative DeGette as original cosponsors were Representatives Castle (R-DE); Kirk (R-IL); Space D-OH); Cole (R-OK); Kildee (D-MI); and Becerra (D-CA).

If HR 3668 is enacted, the SDPI would receive entitlement funds in the amount of \$200 million per year for fiscal years 2012 through 2016, which is \$50 million more than the current annual funding level. The existing SDPI authorization extends through fiscal year 2011.

Because the SDPI is an entitlement program, the funding is not subject to the appropriations process. The \$200 million per year is the level of funding that the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee is seeking for the program. The Type I Program would receive \$200 million per year for the same period, which is also a \$50 million annual increase.

The bill was referred to the Energy and Commerce Committee. There is not currently a Senate companion bill.

We will continue to keep you updated on this legislation. Please let us know if we may provide additional information on the SDPI program.

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