



**NORTHWEST
PORTLAND
AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

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

2121 SW Broadway
Suite 300
Portland, OR 97201
(503) 228-4185
(503) 228-8182 FAX
www.npaihb.org

RESOLUTION # 16-03-05
Portland Area Could Be Treated As a State for the Purposes Of
Title XIX of the Social Security Act

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (hereinafter "NPAIHB" or the "Board") was established in 1972 to assist Tribal governments to improve the health status and quality of life of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, the NPAIHB is a "tribal organization" as defined by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638 seq. et al) that represents forty-three federally recognized tribes in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the definitions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act at 25 USCS § 450b, a tribal organization is recognized as a governing body of any Indian tribe and includes any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; 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 States of Idaho, Oregon and Washington have moved or are moving towards using managed care organizations (MCO) for the provision of health and/or behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, many issues have arisen for our member Tribes under MCOs, including the lack of Tribal consultation by the states as required under federal and/or state law, even when FFS is available; and

WHEREAS, enrollment of American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in Medicaid for the Portland Area in 2014 was 343,675 –36,797 in Idaho, 110,852 in Oregon, and 196,026 in Washington; and

WHEREAS, the number of eligible AI/AN is significantly higher than 343,675 particularly given that not all eligible AI/AN are enrolled in Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, Oregon and Washington expanded Medicaid and individuals are eligible at 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and Idaho did not expand Medicaid and has a lower FPL of 27% for its Medicaid program which leaves many AI/AN without health coverage in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary was authorized to conduct a Navajo Nation Medicaid Agency Feasibility Study under 25 U.S.C. 1647d and a report was issued to Congress titled, "Report to Congress on the Feasibility of a Navajo Nation Medicaid Agency" in May, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the NPAIHB's member Tribes have been leaders in self-determination programs and in cutting edge health programs; and

WHEREAS, the NPAIHB member Tribes would like to further self-determination by exploring how the Portland Area could be treated as a State for the purposes of Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPAIHB directs staff to research and/or explore conducting a feasibility study to determine if the Portland Area can be treated as a State for the purposes of Title XIX of the Social Security Act, to provide services to AI/AN living within the boundaries of the Portland Area through an entity established having the same authority and performing the same functions as a single-State Medicaid agency responsible for the administration of the State plan under the XIX of the Social Security Act.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 16-03-05

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 28 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on April 21, 2016.

Andrew C. Joseph Jr.

Chairman

April 21, 2016
Date

Aregay J. Abrahamson

Secretary