



**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

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**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.*

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Chairman

April 21, 2016  
Date

*Areguy J. Abrahamson*  
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Secretary