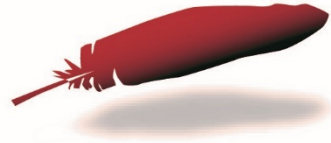


National Indian
Health Board



**NIHB UPDATE TO THE
IHS DIRECT SERVICE TRIBES ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

MARCH 12, 2019

Sooner Davenport, Policy Coordinator-DST Specialist, NIHB

What's New: The NIHB Executive Board

The new NIHB Committee Members are:

- Chairperson (2019 - 2021): **Victoria Kitcheyan**, Great Plains Area, *Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*
- Vice-Chair (2019 – 2020): **William Smith**, Alaska Area, *Valdez Native Tribe*
- Secretary (2019 – 2021): **Lisa Elgin**, California Area, *Manchester-Pt. Arena Band of Pomo Indians*
- Member – at – Large (2019 – 2020): **Andrew Joseph Jr.**, Portland Area, *Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation*
- The position of Treasurer is continuing its current term and is held by **Samuel Moose**, Bemidji Area, *Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe*



Indian Health Service Appropriations FY 2020

NIHB testified on March 6 – House
Interior Appropriations Subcommittee

Testimony included the following
recommendations:

- Advance Appropriations
- End to Sequestration
- Tribal Budget Formulation Workgroup request of **\$7.1 Billion for IHS**



IHS Bills on Advance Appropriations

Three bills have been introduced:

1. S.229 –

Sponsor: Sen. Udall
(D-NM)

Indian Programs Advance Appropriations Act



- IHS Services and CSC as well as BIA

2. H.R. 1128 –

Sponsor: Rep.
McCollum (D-MN)



3. H.R. 1135 –

Sponsor: Rep. Don Young (R-AK)

IHS Advance Appropriations Act



- All of IHS, BIA not included



SDPI Expiring: September 30, 2019

- Congressional Sign on letter is open—**Congressional Outreach needed!**
- Senate HELP Committee leaders introduced a 5 year renewal for SDPI at the current \$150 million/ year
- House will take separate legislation for each program – 5 years likely, hopefully funding increase.
 - Rep. O’Halloran (D-AZ) to introduce SDPI bill.
- Working with partners at American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Endocrine Society to increase funding to \$200 million



Bill Reintroduced: Assessment of the Indian Health Service Act of 2019

- Introduced **S. 498** on February 14, 2019 by Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD)
- Calls upon the Secretary of HHS to contract an assessment of the IHS health care delivery systems and financial management process at Direct Service sites
- The assessment will be used to examine areas of improvement
- Tribal Consultation will be taken with Tribes to address the identified areas for improvement



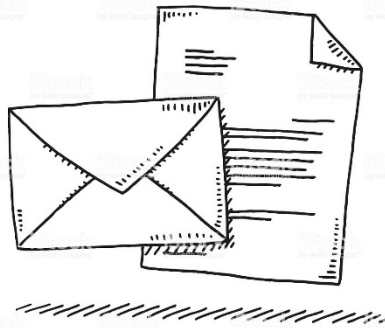
Bill Reintroduced: Veterans Affairs Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC)

- Introduced **S.524** on February 14, 2019 by Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) to create a TAC at the VA
- The TAC would advise the Secretary of Veteran's Affairs (VA) on matters impacting Native American veterans
- Similar legislation was introduced in 2018
- Sen. Tester is the Ranking Member of the Senate VA Committee and is a former chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- The VA TAC Bill includes the following provisions:
 - Ensured representation for Tribes in each IHS Service Area
 - Requirement that half of TAC members serving are also veterans
 - The VA TAC would meet twice annually with the VA Secretary
 - Requires the VA to submit an annual report to Congress that includes Tribal recommendations



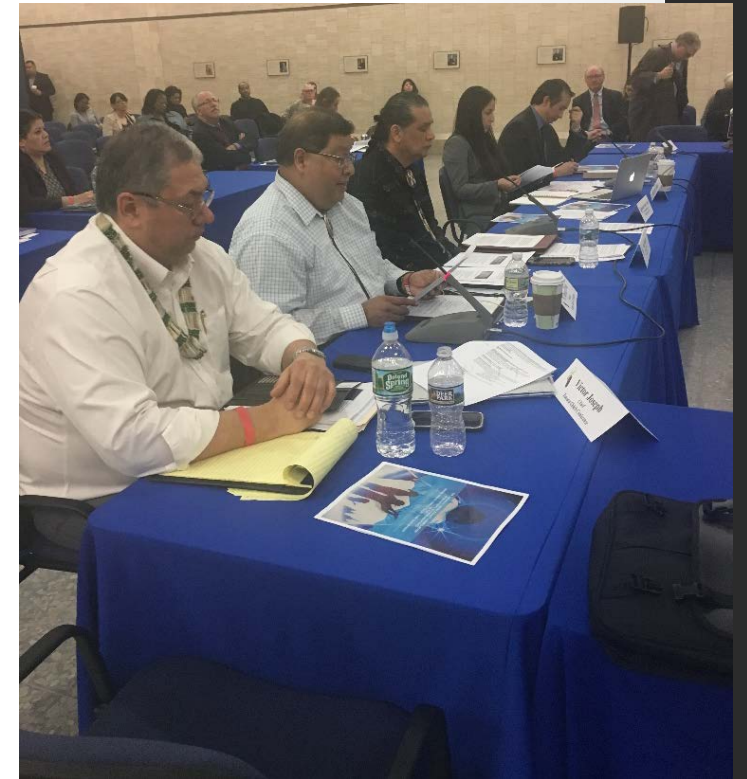
Communications from Congress

- Senate Democrats Letter to HHS Secretary Alex Azar - **March 6, 2019**
- House Energy and Commerce (ENC) Committee Letter to IHS - **March 7, 2019**



Indian Health Service Appropriations FY 2019

- February 15, 2019, full year IHS appropriations enacted
- Includes **\$5.8 billion** for IHS, which is \$268 million above the FY 2018 level
- \$10 million for a Behavioral Health program modeled on SDPI
- SDPI to continue as mandatory
- CHRs are funded at FY 2018 level
- Health Education program funded with \$700K increase

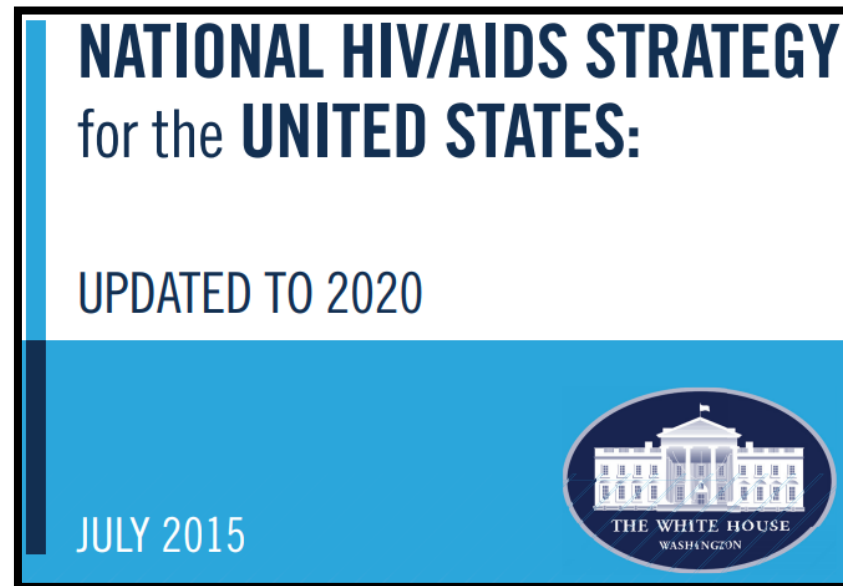


National HIV/AIDS Strategy Update

- The current national strategy was last updated in 2015 and expires in 2020
- HHS issued a request for information (RFI) to inform both the National HIV/AIDS Strategy; and the National Viral Hepatitis Action Plan

Previous Activities:

- Listening Session: September 2018, Orlando
- Listening Session, February 2019, in Washington, D.C.
- National call was held on March 1, 2019
- NIHB submitted written **comments on March 11th**



Work Requirements Update

- On January 18, 2019, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved Arizona's 1115 Medicaid Demonstration waiver with an exemption for members of Federally recognized Tribes
- Work requirements in Arizona will not be implemented until January 1, 2020.
- Tribes in AZ are in discussion with the state on what implementation will look like
- CMS' decision in AZ is likely going to set a precedent for other states, including states that have pending or approved 1115 Waivers.



Health IT Regulations Activity

- NIHB Submitted Comments on January 28, 2019
- HHS has also issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that focuses on the ability of a patient to access their Electronic Health Information
 - Comment Due Date, TBA
 - CMS is releasing two RFIs to obtain feedback on interoperability and health information technology



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



- **Farm Bill Signed into Law on December 20, 2018**

- Expansion of Self-Governance authorities to administer the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
 - Expansion approved as demonstration project
 - \$5 million in appropriations needed to fund the demonstration



- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Work Requirements**

- Proposed regulatory implementation published on February 1, 2019, -- **Comments due April 2, 2019**

Managed Care Issues in Indian Country

- Indian Health Care Providers not being paid or payments are late
- Auto-enrollment in Managed Care Organizations in order to access certain services
- CMS Policies on Managed Care Include:
 - Informational Bulletin (December 14, 2016)
 - CMS Proposed Rules on Managed Care
- TTAG Letter on Managed Care Issues (January 30, 2019)
- TTAG Met with Jim Golden, Director of Managed Care at CMS



Dear Tribal Leader Letter: Health Resources & Services Administration

- February 25, 2019: HRSA issued a DTLL of **proposed changes to the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)** scoring process
- Updates to the scoring method are tentatively planned for spring/early summer
- Updated HPSA scores will be used in the 2020 National Health Service Corps and Nurse Corps application cycles
- Facilities will remain as designated Auto-HPSAs, despite changes to scoring



HHS Annual Tribal Budget Consultation

- Consultation will take place **April 23-24, 2019**
- **HHS is accepting written testimony from Tribes until Thursday, April 18, 2019**
- HHS will be holding planning calls with Tribes

**Call In Number: 866-617-3597 |
Participant Code: 3464707**

March 20, 2019 @ 3:00 PM ET

March 27, 2019 @ 3:00 PM ET

April 3, 2019 @ 3:00 PM ET

April 10, 2019 @ 3:00 PM ET

April 17, 2019 @ 3:00 PM

- Also, evaluation on the current HHS Tribal Consultation policy is **due on March 15, 2019**

MMPC Annual Strategy Session

- **March 19-20th, 2019**



- **Radisson Green Bay Hotel
and Conference Center**

Thank you to our hosts!



**2040 Airport Drive
Green Bay, WI, 54313
Phone: 1-920-494-7300**



NIHB Conferences: TPHS & Behavioral Health



National Indian Health Board Health Policy Fellowship

DEADLINE: March 30th 2019

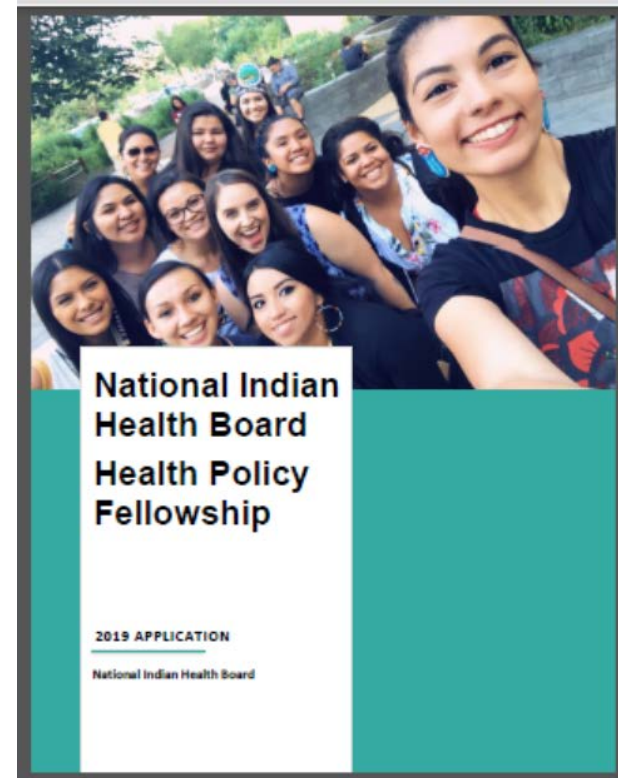
Free Travel and Opportunities to Grow

Health Policy Fellows meet in-person 3 times and receive 5 virtual trainings to strengthen their ability to advocate for their communities.

Health Policy Fellows:

- Work with their Tribal leadership to identify one priority health issue
- Learn to analyze policy in their issue area
- Advocate for change
- Develop Indigenous leadership skills

Got Questions? Contact NIHB's Native Youth Engagement Manager, Dr. Wendee Gardner at wgardner@nihb.org or (202) 548-7297



Thank you!

For more information please contact:

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NIHB Policy Coordinator-Direct Service Tribes Specialist**

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