

# National Indian Health Board



## THE SENATE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL THE BENEFITS FOR AMERICAN INDIANS & ALASKA NATIVES

The Senate Health Care Reform Bill – H.R. 3590 - *The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* – is the most important legislation in decades to impact the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

### **H.R. 3590 Contains Important Language to Reauthorize the Indian Health Care Improvement Act**

- The Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) is the key statutory authority for the delivery of health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- Indian Country has been working on the reauthorization of the IHCIA for over 10 years.
- ☑ The reauthorization language in the Senate bill would 1) make the IHCIA a permanent law, and 2) update current provisions and establish new authorities to reflect the modern methods of health care delivery.

When Health Care Reform Passes – The Reauthorization Of The IHCIA Passes!

### **H.R. 3590 Maximizes the Ability of Individual Indians and the Indian Health System to Benefit from Health Care Reform**

- The Indian health system provides direct care to Indian patients and referral services for care that the Indian health system is not able to provide itself.
- 30% of American Indians and Alaska Natives under age of 65 are either uninsured or depends solely on services provided through Indian Health Services
- ☑ The Senate bill ensures that the health care reform will benefit Individual Indians and the Indian Health System. Important Indian specific provisions include:
  - Exempting American Indian and Alaska Natives from individual penalties to have insurance as Indian people have already paid for their health care by ceding millions of acres of land.
  - Exempting from gross income the value of health insurance and services provided to Tribal members by Indian Tribes or Tribal Organizations.

**It Is Time To Act!**

**A Vote for H.R. 3590 is a VOTE for Better Health Care for Indian People**



926 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE | Washington, DC 20003 | 202-507-4070 | 202-507-4071 fax | [www.nihb.org](http://www.nihb.org)

*The Red Feather of Hope and Healing*  
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