LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY AGENDA FOR THE 111TH CONGRESS AND OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

- Implement NIHB Transition Recommendations consistent with NIHB Resolution
- Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) – Passage within the first 100 days
- Economic stimulus package:
  - Include IHCIA in package: Passage would create healthy workforce, create jobs through health professional recruitment and retention authorities, and through health facility construction and infrastructure
  - Health facility infrastructure
    - Hospitals and clinics
    - Youth and behavioral health residential treatment facilities
    - Long term care facilities
- Health Care Reform Legislation
  - Ensure Indian health delivery system is an integral component of any health care reform initiative through Tribal consultation, consistent with NIHB health care reform workgroup key principles
  - Ensure Tribal input on any proposals to reform the Indian Health Service
- Indian Health Appropriations
  - Protections from Appropriations Rescissions
  - Increase in Contract Support Costs
  - Increase in Contract Health Services
  - Increase in Health Care Facility construction
  - Appropriate funding of $250 million (PEPFAR)
- Elder care issues
  - Complete comprehensive report on Long Term Care in Indian Country
  - Improve AI/AN access to existing Long Term Care home and community based programs and sources of funding
• Mental Health and Substance Abuse
  o SAMSHA reauthorization
  o Ensure Tribal set aside of SAMSHA grant funding
  o Create a statutory AI/AN specific grant program (similar to SDPI)

• Technical corrections to the Deficit Reduction Act (Medicaid)
  o Medicaid cost sharing exemptions
  o Tribal enrollment cards as proof of US citizenship
  o Ensure Tribal consultation in the development of State Plan amendments that provide greater flexibility and expansion of Medicaid services to Tribal communities

• Technical corrections to the Medicare Prescription Drug Act
  o Cost of prescription drugs provided by or through I/T/Us to count towards True out of pocket expenses for AI/ANs

• Childrens’ issues:
  o SCHIP Reauthorization and Indian specific provisions

• Health professions/recruitment/scholarship:
  o Reauthorization of Title VII of the Public Health Service

• Health Disparities/Minority Health

• Veterans’ Issues
  o Veteran’s Affairs reimbursement to IHS/Tribal facilities for services provided to AI/AN veterans

• Enactment of Title VI of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA): expansion of ISDEAA to HHS programs