

Suggested Amendment to the
Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985
To Protect the Indian Health Service (HIS) Budget from Sequestration

February 12, 2013

Suggested amendment language:

Section 255 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 [2 U.S.C. § 905] is amended –

(a) by redesignating the second subsection (j) as subsection (k); and

(b) by adding at the end a new subsection (l) as follows:

"(l) All programs administered or funded by the Indian Health Service . . ." shall be exempt from reduction under any order issued under this subchapter."

Explanation:

The Office of Management and Budget has confirmed that all programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs are exempt from sequestration as provided in Section 255(b) of the BBEDCA (2 U.S.C. § 905(b)). We believe that all programs administered by the Indian Health Service should be similarly exempt. Therefore, our amendment would add an exemption for all programs administered by the Indian Health Service to Section 255.

Our amendment also makes a technical correction to Section 255. Two subsection (j)s have been enacted. Our amendment corrects this error by redesignating the second subsection (j) as subsection (k).