

# National Indian Health Board



## National Indian Health Board Resolution 17-06

### IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE EFFORTS TO EXTEND 100% FMAP TO URBAN INDIAN HEALTH PROGRAMS

**WHEREAS**, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), established in 1972, serving all Federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribal governments by advocating for the improvement of health care delivery to AI/ANs, as well as upholding the Federal government's trust responsibility to AI/AN Tribal governments, does hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Indian Health Board advocates for all American Indians/Alaska Natives on issues related to health care, including Medicaid, a program of critical importance to Indian Country;

**WHEREAS**, the federal government ordinarily pays 100% of the costs incurred by states to reimburse the Indian Health Service (IHS), and Tribal health programs for Medicaid services provided to AI/AN, which is known as the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP); and

**WHEREAS**, services provided to AI/AN Medicaid enrolled members at a Urban Indian Health program (UIHP) are not reimbursed to the state at 100% FMAP; and

**WHEREAS**, 100% FMAP would help both the states and the UIHPs access more federal dollars, which would expand services, access to health care, and improve health care outcomes, according to IHS; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost for 100% FMAP expansion for UIHPs would be *a little over \$20.3 million*, according to IHS; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government's trust responsibility to provide AI/AN healthcare does not end at the borders of an Indian reservation, and Congress acknowledged during the 1987 reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act the responsibility for the provision of health care services follows AI/AN to urban areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the trust responsibility for the provision of health care to AI/AN is one which by law is assigned to the federal government, not the states, which renders the inadequate FMAP for UIHPs wholly inconsistent with the federal government's solemn obligation; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Indian Health Board strongly supports administrative and legislative efforts to extend 100% FMAP to services provided by UIHPs; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of NIHB until it is

withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the NIHB Board of Directors, with quorum present, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2017.



—  
Vinton Hawley  
Chairperson

**ATTEST:**



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Lisa Elgin  
Recording Secretary