

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED FUNDING BEYOND 2008 FOR THE SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAMS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS.

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans funded through the Indian health service is designed to promote improved health care among the Native American community through special diabetes prevention and treatment services projects with objectives and priorities determined at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans funds demonstration projects conducted at sites across the United States targeting Native American communities that are at high risk for developing type 2 diabetes and focusing on lifestyle changes through education and community activities; and

WHEREAS, the authorization for the funding of the Indian health services special diabetes program for Native Americans expires in 2008 and will leave a service gap in the Native American community for primary, secondary and tertiary diabetes prevention and treatment and related data collection; and

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans has created innovative and culturally appropriate strategies that address diabetes in Native Americans and has

significantly enhanced diabetes care and education in the Native American communities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans has improved diabetes surveillance, provided technical assistance, improved provider networks and built significant infrastructure where there was none, and basic programs have become centers of excellence; and

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans has demonstrated innovation and leadership for improved diabetes care for American Indian programs that provide assistance to the Native American communities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the special diabetes program for Native Americans funding formula for grantees is based on user population and disease burden within New Mexico, and continued funding will ensure the health and welfare of Native American communities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, diabetes has a higher prevalence among Native Americans, who represent eight percent of New Mexico's population;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize the rising number of diagnosed cases of diabetes among the Native American communities in New Mexico and that continued need for diabetes prevention and treatment remains; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it express its support for continued funding of the special diabetes program for Native Americans beyond 2008 and support the purposes and practices of diabetes prevention and treatment within the Native American communities in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it urge congress and the president of the United States to continue funding of the special diabetes program for Native Americans beyond 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the president of the United States, the president of the Navajo Nation, the speaker of the Navajo Nation council, the president of the Mescalero Apache Tribe, the president of the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the governors of the nineteen Indian pueblos in New Mexico, the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation, the governor, the secretary of health and the secretary of Indian affairs.