



Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc.

Alamo Band of Navajos * TóHajiilee Band of Navajos * Jicarilla Apache Nation * Mescalero Apache Tribe
Ramah Band of Navajos * Southern Ute Indian Tribe * Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

RESOLUTION 11-03

To support and approve legislation to include dental therapists as a dental provider under the NM Dental Practice Act to improve access to dental services and the health of rural, tribal and underserved New Mexicans

WHEREAS:

1. The consortium of representatives comprising the Board of Directors of the Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc. (AAIHB) namely the Alamo Navajo Band, the Ramah Band of Navajo, the To'Hajiilee Navajo Band, the Jicarilla Apache, the Mescalero Apache, the Ute Mountain Tribe and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe have formed by resolution in the interest and commitment toward the health of each individual tribe named; and
2. The AAIHB is incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of NM and is recognized as an IRS 501(c)(3) organization and is recognized as a "Tribal Organization" as defined in P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and
3. The AAIHB currently serves twenty seven (27) tribes and Pueblos in the states of New Mexico, Southern Colorado, and Texas through the Southwest Epidemiology Center and the Audiology Program. The twenty seven tribes and Pueblos consist of the Alamo Band of Navajos, Ramah Band of Navajos, To'Hajiilee Band of Navajos, Jicarilla Apache Nation, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque, Picuris, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Tesuque, Taos, Zia, Zuni and Ysleta del Sur.
4. The mission of the AAIHB supports activities designed to present and reduce adverse health conditions and health disparities in Native American communities; and
5. AAIHB recognizes that NM would be eligible in 2011 for \$4 million federal grant for the training and employment of dental therapists who practice in rural, tribal and underserved communities.
6. AAIHB recognizes that federal law does not allow tribes to act independently and train or hire dental therapists for their communities and in order for NM tribes to have a dental therapist in their community; NM law must be changed to include dental therapists.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc. supports and approves the legislation to include dental therapists as a dental provider under the NM Dental Practice Act to improve access to dental services and the health of rural, tribal and underserved New Mexicans.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the foregoing resolution was passed by the Board of Directors of the Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board, Inc. at a regular meeting on the 11th day of February 2011 at which a quorum was present with 5 voting for 0 opposing and 0 abstaining the said resolution.

Attest:



Lester Secatero, Chairman
AAIHB Board of Directors



Scott Apachito, Secretary/Treasurer
AAIHB Board of Directors