



## **2013 Annual Convention Worley, ID**

### **RESOLUTION #13 – 73**

#### **“RECOMMENDATION FOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES TO DEVELOP INDIAN MANAGED CARE ENTITY IN STATE MEDICAID PROGRAM”**

#### **PREAMBLE**

We the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA, P.L. 111-5) provides important protections for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) managed care; and

**WHEREAS**, these Indian specific protections will apply consistent rules governing the treatment of AI/ANs and Indian health providers participating in Medicaid and CHIP managed care and also create an opportunity for Indian health programs and urban Indian health organizations to become and function as an “Indian Managed Care Entity” (IMCE) in state Medicaid programs; and

**WHEREAS**, becoming an IMCE may provide an opportunity for IHS, Tribes, and urban Indian health organizations to integrate with state Medicaid reforms to establish stricter managed care and health delivery models; and

**WHEREAS**, no formal policy guidance has been issued on the requirements to become an IMCE with exception of limited information contained in the State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL #10-001/ARRA #6) issued on January 22, 2010; and

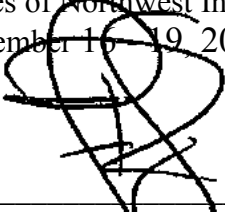
**WHEREAS**, state Medicaid programs and Indian health programs both require additional policy guidance on what the ARRA statute means and how IHS, tribal and urban Indian health programs can become an IMCE in order to implement the ARRA protections and authority; now

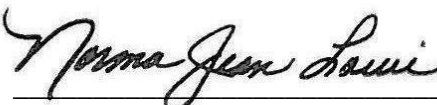
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby request that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) consult and work in collaboration with the CMS-Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG) to develop policy guidance for IHS, Tribal and urban Indian health programs to become Indian managed care entities as authorized under P.L. 1115; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI recommends that CMS issue a new State Medicaid Director Letter that communicates the CMS and TTAG recommendations to implement and operationalize IMCEs in state Medicaid and CHIP programs.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2013 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Coeur d'Alene Resort Hotel & Casino, Worley, Idaho on September 16-19, 2013, with a quorum present.

  
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Fawn Sharp, President

  
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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary