



2014 Mid-Year Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #14 - 27

“RECOMMENDATION FOR IDAHO, OREGON AND WASHINGTON STATE-BASED EXCHANGES TO PROVIDE TRIBAL ENROLLMENT DATA IN ORDER TO EVALUATE AMERICAN INDIANS/ALASKA NATIVES ENROLLMENT AND INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE TRIBES AND URBAN PARTICIPATION IN QUALIFIED HEALTH PLAN CONTRACTING”

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 Northwest Portland Area Health Board Tribal EpiCenter (EpiCenter) has gained national recognition for developing and implementing many useful and innovative projects to improve the health and quality of life of northwest tribal members and has served as a national model for other Indian Health Service (IHS) Areas to emulate in establishing their EpiCenter programs; and

WHEREAS, Section 214 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 110-148) amends current law to continue authority for operation and funding of Tribal Epidemiology Centers and gives EpiCenters the status as public health authorities for purposes of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, thus granting access to health data needed to perform their mission; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) establishes state based and a federal facilitated insurance exchange that provides health insurance for individuals that also include American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) who also have statutorily defined benefits that include cost-sharing exemptions and a monthly enrollment option; and

WHEREAS, Indian health programs want access to their Tribal members' enrollment data into qualified health plans on a regular basis in order to evaluate their outreach, education and enrollment programs in the Insurance Exchanges and to review metrics that provide indicators of AI/AN participation in Marketplace plans and Indian Health Service Tribes and Urban (I/T/U) participation as network providers in the Marketplace; and

WHEREAS, ATNI recognizes and understands that ACA Exchanges may not disclose personally identifiable information unless the creation, collection, use, or disclosure is consistent with 45 CFR § 155.200 and the request under this resolution is for data that complies with the exchange establishment regulations; and

WHEREAS, Idaho, Oregon and Washington State-based Exchanges should identify data resources that can be used to extract data on AI/AN enrollment in zero cost sharing plans and limited cost sharing plans, develop a reporting process and format, and provide quarterly reports to all Federally recognized Tribes in their Exchange jurisdiction; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ATNI recommends that Idaho, Oregon and Washington State-based Exchanges work with IHS and Tribes to develop a workplan, timetable and guidelines for the utilization of enrollment data into qualified health plans.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2014 Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, on May 5 – 8, 2014 with a quorum present.

Fawn Sharp, President

Norma Jean Louie, Secretary