

Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
H-232, US Capitol  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

I am writing on behalf of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association to thank you for the work you and others have done on developing H.R. 3962. Specifically, we thank you for the inclusion of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) as part of H.R. 3962. The addition of IHCIA in H.R. 3962 honors the trust responsibility incumbent upon the United States to provide health care to Indian people regardless of where they reside.

The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is a cultural and political organization representing and advocating on behalf of the 7,000 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal members living in the state of California. As an advocate for our people believe that health care reform is critical to ensuring all Indian people have access to affordable care and all medically necessary health care services. To that end we are delighted that the House has included H.R. 2708, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, in H.R. 3962.

We join the National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH), the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), and the National Steering Committee (NSC) in their request for your continued support of Representative Pallone's bill in H.R. 3962. Including IHCIA will ensure that national health care reform addresses the unique health care needs of Indian people. It has been 10 years since this important piece of legislation has been reauthorized. This is the best opportunity to pass this critical piece of legislation for Indian people and the only chance this Congress.

We thank you for your strong, dedicated advocacy on the behalf of Indian people. We look forward to working with you and the rest of the California Congressional Delegation to guarantee quality, culturally competent health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives no matter where they reside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eli Grayson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eli Grayson  
President  
California Muscogee (Creek) Association  
11-06-2009