**[INSERT LETTERHEAD]**

**TITLE: Support for Funding Increase and Long-Term Reauthorization for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians**

**WHEREAS,** American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) have the highest prevalence of diabetes (15%) amongst all U.S. racial and ethnic groups and death rate due to diabetes for AI/ANs is 1.8 times higher than the U.S. all-races population; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) was first created in 1997 in order to treat and prevent Type 2 diabetes in Indian Country; and,

**WHEREAS,** the program has been renewed by Congress since 1997, but has never had a long-term authorization that would ensure program stability and provide better health outcomes; and,

**WHEREAS,** the program is currently funded at $150 million per year and has not had a funding increase since 2004; and

**WHEREAS,** $234 million per year is an estimate of what the funding for SDPI should be today if SDPI funding kept up with medical inflation since the last funding increase, in 2004; and

**WHEREAS,** SDPI currently provides grants for diabetes treatment and prevention services to 301 IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs in 35 states; and,

**WHEREAS,** between 1996-2013, the incident rate of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) due to diabetes in American Indian and Alaska Native people fell by 54% - a greater decline than for any other racial or ethnic group leading to significant health benefits and health cost savings; and,

**WHEREAS**, communities with SDPI-funded programs have seen a 57% increase in nutrition services, a 72% increase in community walking and running programs, and a 65% increase in adult weight management programs; and,

**WHEREAS,** SDPI is changing the diabetes landscape in Indian Country through community-driven, culturally appropriate programs that have led to significant advances in diabetes education, treatment and prevention; and,

**WHEREAS,** short term renewal has led to increased difficulty for recruiting and retaining staff, building program consistency; and,

**WHEREAS,** lack of increases in funding for SDPI corresponding to medical inflation has led to diminishing program value;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that **[INSERT NAME OF TRIBE OR ORGANIZATION]** supports a funding increase of **[INSERT AMOUNT**] and long-term renewal of SDPI for [**INSERT**].

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, held at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a quorum present.

Chairman

**ATTEST:**

Recording Secretary