



-Executive Branch Memorandum

DATE: September 16, 2008
TO: Chief Jim Gray, Assistant Chief Red Eagle, Speaker Archie Mason,
Congressman Raymond Red Corn
FROM: Osage Nation Health & Wellness Advisory Board
SUBJECT: ONCA 08-46 Osage Nation Health Benefit Act

The Health and Wellness Board reviewed the above proposed legislation and wish to offer the following recommendations to take under advisement. We support the concept of a monetary health benefit to assist our nation's citizens in offsetting the costs of their healthcare. The proposed Health and Wellness Division Structure is well thought out and comprehensive. Please see recommendations for minor revisions.

- 1) We support the policy of soliciting bids for the services of a 3rd party administrator in order to obtain the best value for our budgeted dollar .Even 1% of a proposed 5 million dollar budget would be \$50,000.
- 2) Under expense benefits-please see the following:
 - a) Line #254, #330, #337 -medically performed everyday, but **do we want to reimburse for** procedures that would prevent the population growth of our Nation?
 - b) Line #256 - rarely needed as a health promoting piece of equipment and much potential for fraud
 - c) Line #262 -never heard of this and suspect it is out of date
 - d) Line #272 -leave off as beyond scope of program
 - e) Line #285 -not an identifiable expense nowadays
 - f) Line #284 -covered in other items
 - g) Line #290 -too broad and poorly defined
 - h) Line #325 -rename radiation therapy
 - i) Line #330 -see a) above
 - j) Line #334 -rename 'emergency transportation services'
 - k) Line #376 -leave off as these are already included under "Eligible Over-the-Counter Drugs
 - l) Line #383,#387 -change stop smoking and weight loss programs to be "included items"
 - m) Line #398,#397 -list as included over the counter drugs with note or auth by physician -used as Rx for osteoporosis or diverticulosis
 - n) Line #297 -not a legitimate medical expense
- 3) Other considerations include offering a level benefit (all citizens eligible for the same amount of reimbursement) versus a benefit more weighted toward the

elderly (the older you are, the more reimbursement you qualify for) and their higher level of medical expenses.

Finally, we ask that all concerned work in collaboration with each other to avoid duplication of benefits (e.g., other proposed legislation)

We thank you for the opportunity to assist you in the processing of these important pieces of legislation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald B. Shaw, M.D.".

Ronald B Shaw, M.D., Chairman
Osage Nation Health and Wellness Board