

March 13, 1963

*Int-  
Indians*

Mr. B. Frank Belvin  
President  
Inter-Tribal Council of the  
Five Civilized Tribes  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Muskogee, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Belvin:

Thank you for sending me a copy of the resolution adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes calling for increased appropriations for the Division of Indian Health and for construction of sanitation facilities.

I would be pleased to present the resolution to Chairman Hayden as you request. The Appropriations Committee has not yet begun hearings on the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare budget, however, and I believe it would be more effective to present the resolution when the hearings begin.

The Council's concern over Indian health is appreciated, and as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I will do all I can to see that sufficient funds are authorized.

With best regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL  
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

ORGANIZED ON FEBRUARY 3, 1950



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT  
B. FRANK BELVIN  
OKMULGEE

VICE-PRESIDENT  
HENRY AHRENS  
WAGONER

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
MARIE L. WADLEY  
MUSKOGEE

TREASURER  
E. B. MAYTUBBY  
MUSKOGEE

CHAPLAIN  
REV. JIM PICKUP  
TAHLEQUAH

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
ALFRED DEERE  
WEWOKA

March 11, 1963

AIRMAIL

Honorable A. S. Mike Monroney  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Monroney:

There is forwarded to you Resolution which was adopted by The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in special session at Oklahoma City on March 9, 1963.

This body voted unanimously to ask that you particularly present this Resolution to Honorable Carl Hayden, Chairman, Interior Senate Sub-Committee, United States Senate, for immediate consideration and action. This Council is particularly concerned with the great need for additional funds with which to carry out the very important program of Indian health, and especially the provisions of P. L. 121, which have to do with improved sanitation among Indians.

This Council will deeply appreciate your assistance in presenting this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Frank Belvin".

B. Frank Belvin  
President

Enclosure

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, in special session on March 9, 1963, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, desires to bring to the attention of the Congress of the United States the adverse health conditions of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the importance of making available sufficient funds for fiscal year 1964 operations of the Indian health program in order that these needs may be met, and

WHEREAS, these health conditions can be illustrated by the following basic facts:

1. Most of the illnesses and one-sixth of the deaths among people served by the Division of Indian Health are associated with infectious diseases, many of which are preventable.
2. The Indian death rate from gastroenteric diseases is seven times higher than the rate for all races.
3. The high death rate among infants and young people explains the low average age at death of 42 for the Indian, compared with 62 for all races.
4. The primitive sanitary conditions under which Indians and Alaska Natives live are largely responsible for the high disease rates and short life span.

And, WHEREAS, the fact that tuberculosis has been relegated from the number one cause of death among Indians to ninth place clearly demonstrates that great strides may be made in raising the health status of Indians and Alaska Natives when curative and proven preventive measures are applied to a communicable disease, and

WHEREAS, our review of the President's Budget for fiscal year 1964 indicates a Program Activities budget of \$58,985,000 for the

Division of Indian Health, representing a gross increase of \$2,402,000 over fiscal year 1963 for the same activities; however, over one-half of the increase must be utilized for mandatory pay increases and other costs, and

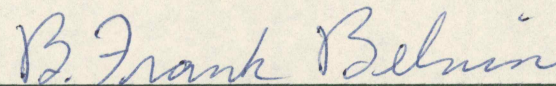
WHEREAS, the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Indian Health for the past several years has recommended annual increments of 5 million dollars for the Division of Indian Health's Program Activities to allow for an orderly growth of the curative and preventive phases of the program.

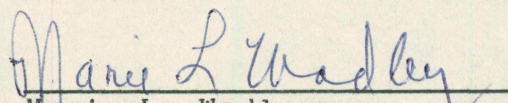
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States be, and it is hereby memorialized to support the Division of Indian Health's fiscal year 1964 request to the extent that the net increase will reflect an increment of 5 million dollars for Program Activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress appropriate a minimum of 6 million dollars for sanitation facilities construction projects authorized under Public Law 86-121; additional funds should be made available to compensate for staff requirements as a result of a one million dollar increase during 1963 and no increase in staff to implement projects; recognition should be given to the fact that corresponding increase in staff should accompany any increase in construction funds.

Adopted on this the 9th day of March, 1963, in special session at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Frank Belvin  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marie L. Wadley  
Executive Secretary

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, in special session on March 9, 1963, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, desires to bring to the attention of the Congress of the United States the adverse health conditions of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the importance of making available sufficient funds for fiscal year 1964 operations of the Indian health program in order that these needs may be met, and

WHEREAS, these health conditions can be illustrated by the following basic facts:

1. Most of the illnesses and one-sixth of the deaths among people served by the Division of Indian Health are associated with infectious diseases, many of which are preventable.
2. The Indian death rate from gastroenteric diseases is seven times higher than the rate for all races.
3. The high death rate among infants and young people explains the low average age at death of 42 for the Indian, compared with 62 for all races.
4. The primitive sanitary conditions under which Indians and Alaska Natives live are largely responsible for the high disease rates and short life span.

And, WHEREAS, the fact that tuberculosis has been relegated from the number one cause of death among Indians to ninth place clearly demonstrates that great strides may be made in raising the health status of Indians and Alaska Natives when curative and proven preventive measures are applied to a communicable disease, and

WHEREAS, our review of the President's Budget for fiscal year 1964 indicates a Program Activities budget of \$58,985,000 for the

Division of Indian Health, representing a gross increase of \$2,402,000 over fiscal year 1963 for the same activities; however, over one-half of the increase must be utilized for mandatory pay increases and other costs, and

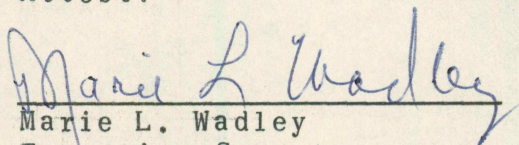
WHEREAS, the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Indian Health for the past several years has recommended annual increments of 5 million dollars for the Division of Indian Health's Program Activities to allow for an orderly growth of the curative and preventive phases of the program.

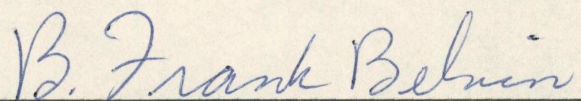
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States be, and it is hereby memorialized to support the Division of Indian Health's fiscal year 1964 request to the extent that the net increase will reflect an increment of 5 million dollars for Program Activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress appropriate a minimum of 6 million dollars for sanitation facilities construction projects authorized under Public Law 86-121; additional funds should be made available to compensate for staff requirements as a result of a one million dollar increase during 1963 and no increase in staff to implement projects; recognition should be given to the fact that corresponding increase in staff should accompany any increase in construction funds.

Adopted on this the 9th day of March, 1963, in special session at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Attest:

  
Marie L. Wadley  
Executive Secretary

  
B. Frank Belvin  
President