

May 3, 1973

The Honorable Julia Butler Hansen  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on the Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Madame Chairman:

Attached is a copy of correspondence I received from the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation relating to a proposal for the construction of three separate buildings by the Choctaw Nation Enterprises, Inc. to be used for Indian Health Centers.

I think this proposal has great merit. We can help solve two problems if we appropriate the money in this case - first, we can help the Indian people help themselves by aiding Indian industry, and second, we can help provide much needed facilities for Indian Health Centers.

I would, therefore, respectfully request that your distinguished Subcommittee consider providing appropriate funding for this project in the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 1974.

Thank you for your kindness in consideration this matter.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Speaker

CA/JJI

May 3, 1973

The Honorable J. W. Belvin  
Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation  
Durant, Oklahoma

Dear Chief Belvin:

I just wanted to bring you up to date on your proposal for the construction of the three buildings for Indian Health Centers. I have carefully studied the information you sent me, and I think the proposal has merit. I have, therefore, written Mrs. Hansen, Chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee asking her to consider the matter.

I will be back in touch with you as the situation progresses.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Speaker

CA/Jjl

*Joel*

MEMO TO CHARLIE  
FROM JOEL  
SUBJECT: INDIAN HEALTH CONSTRUCTION

1. I have checked this matter out with Dave Wilson, who is the Counsel to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, and he indicates that it is indeed their Committee that handles this matter. He also indicates that the procedure would be for the Speaker or other appropriate Member to request that the Subcommittee specifically earmark funds for this project in their add-on appropriations. He says this is a common occurrence, and can be done.

2. The question now is, "How do you want to proceed?"

The best way may be for the Speaker to call Mrs. Hansen and make the request. The Interior Appropriations Bill will not be out till about June, so we have just a little time within which to work. Just let me know what I can do.

*Prepare for  
letter to  
Speaker  
sign  
Then  
will see if  
he'll also  
call Mrs. H -  
Chm*