

1-4-67

CLW:

Mr. John Spaan from Oklahoma City just called me. We will be receiving a letter/soon about the future selection of the Executive Officer for the Division of Indian Health (E.V. Downing is retiring)

(U. S. Public Health under HEW). Mr. Spaan is very interested in securing this position, but it is his understanding that Mr. Frank Ellis from Alaska is to be appointed by Dr. E. S. Rabeau, Division of Indian Health in Washington.

Mr. Spaan told me that Mr. Ellis has never been in Oklahoma, although he has been active in the Health Service in Alaska. John Spaan was at the meeting of the 5 Tribes health meeting and talked with Chief Belvin, etc., about this and the chiefs expressed concern that an Oklahoman would not be holding this position. Mr. Spaan has contacted all of the Congressmen, Sen. Monroney is trying to expedite his Civil Service rating for Management Engineer so that he will have the proper rating for the job.

Mr. Spaan is a personal friend of mine, has worked for the Democratic Party for years, and told me that he had worked with Mr. A. in past Demo. Projects. He is a loyal friend of the Administration, and would appreciate anything that we could do to help. He is a good person, is devoted, and very desirous to obtain this position.

Office Phone: CE 6-2311 Ext. 694

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